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Library Economy and Bibliography

OCTOBER, 1909

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# The Library Journal

VOL. 34. No. 10. OCTOBER, 1909

## Contents

PAGES	PAGES
EDITORIALS . . . . . 425	STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS . . . . . 453
International library congress at Brussels	Iowa
Plans for New York conference	Keystone State
Miss Browne's resignation from Publishing Board	Oklahoma
Mr. Legler appointed to Chicago	LIBRARY SCHOOLS AND TRAINING CLASSES . . . . . 453
Library week at Lake George	Chautauqua
Interstate meeting, Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky	Drexel
EDUCATIONAL VALUE OF BIBLIOGRAPHIC TRAINING.	New York
—Willard H. Austen . . . . . 427	Pratt Institute
THE USE OF BOOKS IN PRISONS.—J. C. Hill . . . . . 431	Western Reserve
LIBRARIES IN OKLAHOMA . . . . . 434	Wisconsin
DISADVANTAGES OF REINFORCED BINDING . . . . . 437	Joint Library School Dinner at Lake George
MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF ENGLAND . . . . . 437	REVIEWS . . . . . 457
LIBRARY WEEK AT SAGAMORE, LAKE, GEORGE, SEPT. 20-27 . . . . . 438	A Dickens dictionary
BOOK SYMPOSIUM AT LAKE GEORGE . . . . . 444	Hazeltine, M. E., ed. Anniversaries and holidays
LIBRARIES IN RURAL COMMUNITIES . . . . . 445	Library economics
CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY . . . . . 448	State publications
ROUND TABLE MEETINGS . . . . . 449	LIBRARY ECONOMY AND HISTORY . . . . . 460
WISCONSIN-MINNESOTA LIBRARY MEETING . . . . . 450	Periodicals
AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION . . . . . 452	American libraries
Committee on binding	LIBRARIANS . . . . . 465
STATE LIBRARY COMMISSIONS . . . . . 452	CATALOGING AND CLASSIFICATION . . . . . 466
Pennsylvania	BIBLIOGRAPHY . . . . . 466
	NOTES AND QUERIES . . . . . 468
	LIBRARY CALENDAR . . . . . 468

## INDEX TO ADVERTISERS.

PAGE	PAGE
Allen (Edw. G.) & Son . . . . . inside front cover	McClurg (A. C.) & Co. . . . . 6
A. L. A. Publishing Board . . . . . 3d cover page	Nelson (Thos.) & Sons . . . . . 4th cover page
American News Company . . . . . 7	Nicholson, R. J. . . . . 12
Art Metal Construction Company . . . . . 4	Publishers' Weekly, Office of . . . . . 3, 10
Baker & Taylor Company . . . . . 9	Putnam's (G. P.) Sons . . . . . 8
Baker's Great Book Shop . . . . . 12	Quaritch, Bernard . . . . . 5
Björck & Björcksson . . . . . 7	Serantom, Wetmore & Co. . . . . 12
Booksellers (Directory of) . . . . . 11	Scribner's (Charles) Sons . . . . . 8
Brockhaus, F. A. . . . . 8	Situations Wanted . . . . . 12
Conrad, Hugo . . . . . 9	Sotheran (H.) & Co. . . . . 8
Dura Binding Co. . . . . 7	Stevens (B. F.) & Brown . . . . . 5
Emerson, Gilbert D. . . . . 9	Tice & Lynch . . . . . 12
Higgins (Charles M.) & Co. . . . . 6	Wanamaker, John . . . . . 9
Jenkins (W. R.) Company . . . . . 12	Whitaker's Reference Catalogue, 1910 . . . . . 3
Library Supplies (Dealers in) . . . . . 12	White (H. C.) & Co. . . . . 2
Lowdermilk (W. H.) & Co. . . . . 12	

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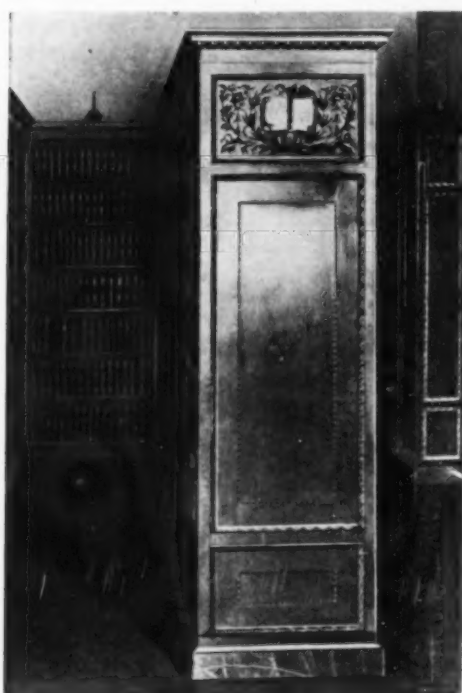
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### Regarding the State Library State of Massachusetts THE LATE

**C. B. TILLINGHAST, Librarian**

In his last annual report stated as follows—viz:

#### New Stack Room

In accordance with the provisions of the law enacted by the last Legislature, the large rooms on the fifth floor formerly occupied by the restaurant and kitchen, have been fitted up as an addition to the stack room of the library. It contains about three and a half miles of the finest steel shelving manufactured and was constructed by the ART METAL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY. The entire work has been a model of economic and artistic construction, under the direction of the architect, Mr. Wm. Chapman.

C. B. TILLINGHAST,

N. v. 30, 1908.

LIBRARIAN.



*Entrance to Stack Room, Mass. State Library.*

# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 34

OCTOBER, 1909

No. 10

It is planned by the new Executive Board which held its initial meeting at the Chicago headquarters September 2, to provide for the 1910 conference in or near New York City, if adequate hotel accommodations can be had at reasonable rates and to make this the starting point for a delegation to the International Library Congress at Brussels in August in case a large and representative attendance can be secured. In 1897 the visiting delegation from America to England reached about 80, and it ought to be possible now to secure an even larger delegation. In that case it might be practicable to charter for the journey one of the smaller steamers, displaced by the mammoth ocean-going hotels, but entirely comfortable and safe. Such a plan can be carried through only in case enough members of the A. L. A. make up their minds well in advance, and it should now be the first thought of all to decide whether they can go upon such a trip. Of course, members' families and other friends could be included in the arrangements. 1910 is Oberammergau year and a trip next summer will be especially inviting. The first requisite is to make a census throughout the association, of those who cannot go, of those who intend to go (under attractive arrangements), and of those who *may* go, including a statement as to any others, of family or friends who might accompany the members. If a return post-card be sent out from Headquarters, and promptly answered by each member, there will be some approximate knowledge on which to base possible travel arrangements. The fact that this is to be an International meeting should debar no one, for though the official language is likely to be French, there will be much speaking of English, not only among the English and American delegations, but on the part of continental librarians. Let us first of all have a prompt census.

It was not proposed that the A. L. A. should be invited to New York City until the completion and opening of the superb central building of the New York Public Library

should give a special occasion for an adequately large and important gathering. Curiously enough, in the early summer it is difficult to make satisfactory arrangements in the metropolis for any hotels in which accommodations at reduced or reasonable rates could be secured for so large a body as the A. L. A., partly because at that season many tourists congregate in New York. It has been suggested, therefore, that some sea-side hotel, or combination of hotels, like the Manhattan and Oriental at Manhattan Beach, or the Rockaway hotels or that at Long Beach should be induced to open, as was done at Bretton Woods, somewhat earlier than usual for the accommodation of the A. L. A., or that if the dormitories at Princeton could be put at the services of the association, that delightful college town should be chosen as the stepping-stone for Europe. Had it not been for the European plan, Denver would probably have been the place chosen for the 1910 conference, but the selection of that place for that year would have meant a division of the Association, and a decided damper on the plan for a European delegation. It is to be hoped that the proposed combination of New York or a suburban resort nearby, with a trip to Europe, may prove acceptable to the members of the A. L. A.

HEADQUARTERS are now definitely established at Chicago and library pilgrims should set their faces toward this Mecca, that the headquarters may be a general meeting place for as many as possible of A. L. A. members. There is no gain without some loss and the removal to Chicago involves the loss to the working staff of the A. L. A. of one of the most helpful and productive co-workers in library progress. Everyone who knows the personality and work of Miss Nina E. Browne — and who, that has ever been at an A. L. A. conference, does not? — knows that in her the Association has enjoyed the services of one of the most helpful and effective of public servants, for service to the A. L. A. is certainly service to the public. For many years Miss Browne has patiently managed the

detail of the work of the Publishing Board, and whether in her devoted and valuable labors on the monumental index to portraits, while hidden away among the alcoves of the Boston Athenæum or in her later duties at the Boston headquarters building, where in addition to routine work she had for a time to face the many responsibilities of headquarters, her service has been useful to the Association in very high degree; and all those who have known her and her work will be glad to know that she will continue her usefulness in the library field as secretary of the Massachusetts Free Library Commission.

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MR. LEGLER's selection for the Chicago Public Library will greatly facilitate the development of Headquarters there, but this excellent choice has features of even greater importance. For the first time "civil service reform" methods have been applied to the choice of a chief librarian. It was feared that few, if any, first class men would apply for examination, but there were nineteen applicants, and though their names will not be known, it is understood that they included many librarians of high rank. The Committee's report is interesting and suggestive reading. The paper outlining a scheme for the development of the Chicago Public Library, which took the place of the usual written examinations, seems to have proved of secondary importance; and what was really significant, was that the names were passed upon by a board of trained professionals who knew the men, their character and their work. Mr. Legler comes to this important post with remarkable equipment and experience both in the educational and library fields; and Chicago is to be congratulated at the expense of Wisconsin, which will find it difficult to replace him as the executive officer of her Library Commission.

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"LIBRARY WEEK" at Lake George was even more a success than usual, the attendance outreaching 200 and including many leaders of the profession from outside New York State. The real success of the meeting, however, was due largely to the freedom of the program from overcrowding and the emphasis given to large and inspiring topics

in contrast with the administrative details which until recent years required most attention. The meeting was of unusual literary quality because of Prof. Schmidt's stirring and informing address on Ibsen, which had distinctive library as well as literary value, Miss Plummer's charming paper on the "Seven joys of reading," which had previously delighted the Atlantic City gathering, and Prof. Bailey's remarkable talk on the betterment of rural communities through libraries as well as other factors of progress. Mr. Austen's presidential address at Lake George brought home to librarians, perhaps to the surprise of many, how much remains to be done in systematizing bibliographical references and putting bibliographical information in better shape for the service of those engaged in research. The reports and discussions on library work among foreigners, adults as well as children, on reading in prisons and reformatory institutions and on training in normal colleges and high schools, were of distinctive value, continuing as they did the discussions of the previous year and resulting in the outlining of practical work through the several committees appointed on these subjects.

---

BUT of almost greater importance, for the future, than either the Atlantic City or Lake George meetings in the East should be the interstate meeting which is to be held at Louisville by the Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky associations the latter part of October. This gathering should not only bring together a large representation from these library states but should, through them, do great missionary service in the Southern states within this "sphere of influence." We had already suggested that some such interstate meeting, perhaps in Wisconsin, should become a regular feature of the library year, and if this meeting proves as successful as it should it might usefully become an annual event, leaving room for a similar annual interstate meeting of other state associations from Illinois westward. It is perhaps to be regretted that a council meeting has not been called at Louisville, or in the West with reference to the Louisville meeting, so that this gathering like the Eastern meetings could be assured of the attendance of many leaders of the profession from elsewhere.

## EDUCATIONAL VALUE OF BIBLIOGRAPHIC TRAINING\*

BY WILLARD H. AUSTEN, *Reference librarian, Cornell University Library, Ithaca, N. Y.*

ALMOST from the beginning of the modern library movement librarians of the United States have given a great deal of attention to the technique and methods of library economy. This was inevitable as thirty years ago there were almost as many different methods of classification, cataloging, charging, etc., as there were libraries. In the Spencerian sense, bibliography had not become a science, because still unorganized. We have now arrived at a time when our work has become fairly standardized, when the library world is pretty much agreed on the best methods of doing things, and while always seeking a better way, if there be one, we can turn our attention to the larger problems that had to await this preliminary work. While not forgetting that there are always with us librarians who have not lived through these formative years, and who still have unsolved problems, we are discussing this year the needs of the library users. Having familiarized ourselves with the bibliographic laws governing the use of books, we are realizing that our readers need to know something about these laws, hence we are discussing the limitations and needs of our readers in this respect. Having discussed books for the general reading public all these years, we are beginning to consider reading for special classes. Our book symposium, that forms so agreeable and profitable a feature of our library programs, is indicative that having mastered the technique, we are returning to the enjoyment of that complete structure of which the technique is the essential framework, but well-nigh concealed in the finished product.

Libraries have found their place in the educational system of our commonwealth and are recognized as filling a place quite unoccupied by any other agency, and it is to call your attention to some of the salient points of contact, with other phases of the system, that I invite your attention to this consideration for a brief time.

Gradation in things educational is what has been sought for and reasonably attained

in the United States. Indeed, this effort has been so consistently and persistently pushed to the front that we are beginning to hear rumors here and there of reaction in favor of the more individualistic pursuit of mental development. A recent article in the *World's Work* by James P. Monroe on "How the colleges ruin the high schools" is a strong protest against the leveling up or down of adolescent intellect in order to make it conform to a college curriculum. The reaction is in favor of the development of the individual, as such, quite independent of the masses or groups in which he may be placed. This means, if it means anything, that the highest type of education is that which makes an individual master of himself, of his powers and proclivities; and as one person is blessed with certain talents and lacking perhaps in others, the methods by which this is accomplished become exceedingly complicated. But there can be no question but that books, in some form, are essential to every phase of education, individualistic and collective. For this reason, bibliography, in common with a few other essential subjects, takes a permanent place in our educational system.

At the apex of the educational pyramid is commonly supposed to stand the scholar, the university scholar perhaps; I won't say the professor, because the term does not predicate any special qualifications or fitness to entitle him to occupy this exalted position, so common has the use of the title become. At all events, he is reckoned the highest type of the independent, individual worker, standing as the pioneer in developing intellectual fields. Following in his wake comes the graduate student, in training for the scholar's position, working under his direction but reaching out into bypaths that lead from the main travelled roads. Then comes the so-called undergraduates in all stages of development, but mostly working under the daily direction and stimulus of another. This group extends down through the normal school and the school grades, even below the high school, in so far as they are stimulated to work in the library field, or laboratory.

\*Read before the New York Library Association, Lake George, Sept. 20, 1909.



Finally comes the great group of general readers, following out their free fancy, dipping into science to-day, literature to-morrow, liberally spiced with fiction of varying quality.

Roughly cast, these are the groups of users with which the library has to deal; and the attitude of the library toward the several classes, changing as it has been, calls for a glance in passing. Toward the great body of general readers, many of whom mentally crystallized at an early age, the task of helping them to develop into self-helpful readers has seemed in many cases well-nigh hopeless. The easiest thing for them and at the moment the easiest thing for the librarian is to find out what is wanted (not always an easy task) and put the book into the hand of the reader, opened at the right page; or perhaps to learn what to them will prove an interesting novel, and give it to them. This process must needs be repeated every time such readers come to the library, so that what seems the easiest method at first, really involves the most expenditure of time in the case of all such readers as come with more or less frequency to the library. As yet comparatively little is being done in most libraries to make this class of readers self-helpful, and perhaps little can be done. The feeling that many librarians have that the public librarian is paid to be of service to the public leads many to decide that library assistants should go to any length in serving the readers as often as they reappear.

The group of school children from the very beginning of their use of the library up to the time of entering college, and after, is a more hopeful field. At least it seems more worth while to teach them how to help themselves and they are more willing to make the effort to learn. Whatever may be said in excuse for practice with older readers, there is little to be said in defence of any failure to teach young readers how to use the library. Reading children are supposed to be in possession of certain fundamental principles, although we sometimes find them without a knowledge of the order of the letters of the alphabet, which is certainly a fundamental requisite to using a library, as it is to every form of mental activity;

but when in possession of these the labor of giving them an insight into the general principles of using a library is small, when compared with the labor saved in the long run. Then the worthwhileness of doing this does not end with the economy of time to the library. We none of us know which of these young readers are scholars in the making and therefore all must be looked upon as such, and be started in the training that plays so large a part in all higher research work, although the ripe scholar is often slow to realize and acknowledge his own defects in this respect.

The same principles hold true all the way up through the college and university body. If students have had no bibliographic training in the preparatory schools, and as yet few come to the universities who have had, then the college library must do what it can to supply this lack, realizing that a still larger per cent. of college students, than is found among the preparatory students, is destined to be workers with books. As yet a large part of the work in training college students in using the library is taken up with teaching them how to use a catalog, an index, a cyclopedia and other steps preliminary to doing anything more advanced; and until students come to the university with this preliminary preparation, this is inevitable. The great service that public and school libraries can do for students preparing to go to college is to teach them these preliminary steps toward more advanced research problems, to give them drill in the technique, with little stress on the facts found, but all stress on the methods of finding them. In this way when they begin their use of books in a university library it will be with some such appreciation as the musician has of his music, after he has mastered the technique and has no longer to consider it.

In the present crowded state of the preparatory school curriculum and the lack of opportunity that prevents librarians from getting any systematic co-operation from the preparatory students, it is not easy to see where such instruction can best be given. The librarians know that the school teachers lack the training in the use of books that would enable them to instruct the pupils. It is claimed by some that teachers should

get their bibliographic training in their college course, but with the elective system prevailing in nearly all of our colleges, such training cannot be required, and unless room can be found for it in schools where work is required, the problem is not solved. The student enters college and begins his special work in one or more groups of subjects. He is expected to gain more or less familiarity with the literature of these subjects, but beyond those books immediately brought to his attention he has not the time, inclination or facility for getting this training. Co-operation between preparatory schools and college libraries may well be a subject for special attention at some future discussion of our association.

We now come nearer the apex of our intellectual pyramid and encounter for the first time the graduate student. One who is doing real research work, whose results are, perhaps for the first time, of some importance where the technique should be concealed in the harmony produced. A step beyond this group are the masters, those who have reached the summit of intellectual pursuits and are reaching out into the unknown beyond. Here we should expect to encounter the perfected process, the place where perfect technique is wholly hidden in the beauty of the finished product. Alas, are our expectations realized? The action and reaction between the master and his favorite pupil, the graduate student, is so close that the two will be considered together. The student is set a piece of work, generally something that has not been fully worked out before. One of the first steps in the process is to gather his materials. To find just how much has been done by others along the same or similar lines. This calls into play the historical method. To verify results and check up opinions for the possibility of errors in others' conclusions, involving the laboratory and logical methods. All this must be done by reference to the literature of the subject, if it has literature, and few subjects have not. The master may know in a general way what has been done in the special field, but the investigator must find out for himself, and he goes to work. He begins with the most obvious thing, the latest authoritative work on the subject. Here he is sure to

encounter, perhaps for the first time, citations to the literature of the subject, and his real difficulties begin. If he is working in science, he is likely to encounter such references as *Compte rendus*, *Silliman's journal*, *Poggendorff's annalen*, or such meaningless combinations of letters as *Abh. Sachs, Ges.*, or *Nov. acta Acad. Caes. Leop. Carol. Natur cur.* He does not know that *Compte rendus* in science references probably refers to the reports of the Academie des Science, although the same words may with equal propriety may be used by the litterateur to refer to the Academie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres; that *Silliman's journal* is a loose way of referring to the American journal of science, started by Benjamin Silliman; or that the *Nova acta* referred to is a Latin translation of the German *Verhandlungen* of the Kaiserliche Leopoldinisch-Carolinische Akademie der Naturforscher.

If the student is working in literature or philology then he will sooner or later encounter such references as *W. Z.*, meaning *Wiener zeitschrift*, and be wholly unable to tell among at least a dozen *zeitschriften* published at Vienna, which one is intended; or will fail to recognize in the abbreviation *Nov. ann.* the well known *Neue jahrbücher für philologie*.

And finally, a student working in the social sciences will find such references as the Committee of ten, or the Committee of fifteen, or of seven, or some other meaningless number, and never know until he is told, that the references are to the reports of special committees of the National Education Association or the American Historical Association, whose number happened to be ten, or seven, or fifteen.

These are samples of many inaccurate and incomplete references found in the best classes of literature that hundreds of advanced students are encountering for the first time every year. It is not too much to say that the literature of every subject is full of references to authorities that are so far from being even suggestive of the publications referred to, that only a scholar of years' standing or an unusually clever reference librarian could guess what is intended by many of them. The attitude of writers making such references is well known to librarians.

They argue that because others have made such references before, because literature is full of such references, they should continue the practice. They have some of the lawyer's tenacity for following precedent. They say that all scholars in their field know what is intended by these references, and furthermore bibliographic practice should conform to the practice of scholars and not the scholar's practice to the bibliographic law. They overlook the fact that the same publication is cited by different writers in different ways. Witness the citations *Leip. abh. Ges. Wiss., Abh. Sach. Ges., Gesell. d. Leip.*, all intended for the same publications, viz., *The König. Sach. Gesell. d. Wissenschaft. Abhandlungen*. Often they do not know that the same abbreviation may be used for two entirely different works. If all scholars, in a given field, do recognize the usual references, which is far from the case, they forget the hardship imposed on the rising generations of scholars. Coming to their references for the first time, they seek to find the materials in the usual bibliographical lists, but fail to find anything that corresponds to their citation. In this way hours of time are wasted simply in the effort to find out what is intended by the author. These citations often bear no resemblance to the form that every bibliography, worthy the name, must use to enter the work. Finally reference to the librarian may put him right. Often it is mere guesswork with the most experienced librarian.

The limit of endurance is reached when scholars refuse to recognize a body of bibliographic law which has grown up all unknown to them, which has attained the same dignity of authority that the specialist claims for laws in his own field of work.

It would be unjust to apply this criticism to all scholars, because many of them are conscious of their shortcomings in this direction and are willing to accept the bibliographer's law when it is pointed out to them; but as yet the number is not large and the majority will persist to the end in making references as their precursors have done. Not only does this lack of knowledge work hardship to others but the scholar himself suffers when he comes to use the great bibliographies of the world. Let me cite a

recent case of a writer of many books who had occasion to look up the well-known history of the Civil War by the Comte de Paris, and not finding it, appealed to the librarian to know why it was not in the catalog, he having looked for it under Comte and of course failed to find it. I have known an eminent classicist, familiar with all the literature of his subject, who had difficulty in finding his materials in a card catalog, particularly the learned society publications. He looks for *Abhandlungen, Sitzungsberichte, Acta* and other catch words and wonders why he does not find what he wants, never recalling the simple rule regarding the entry of such materials he has been so often told.

Now, I am not telling these cases to hold anyone up to ridicule but merely to show, concretely, the real need that exists among the highest class of literary workers for a knowledge of bibliographic law. If this lack of comprehension of first principles exists among those who have spent years in looking up citations and following out chains of references, what can be expected of those just beginning the process, or still more those who have never approached the problem with any serious needs. Anyone who has worked with different classes of library users, soon realizes how few there are who have mastered the fundamental laws so essential to easy and effective work with books.

It will now be realized without much difficulty, I think, the need of bibliographic knowledge among all classes of library users from the highest to the lowest, and how important it is that we train up the rising generation in the right way that when they come to write books they will not follow their predecessors in the matter of citations. As yet, the only workers in this field are the librarians. When the normal school students have been trained long enough to create a considerable body of teachers in our public schools with a knowledge of bibliographic law, then librarians will be strongly reinforced. A hopeful sign that something is being done by somebody comes to us from year to year in the few students coming up to the universities who are familiar with catalogs, indexes, and other library facilities: and with the effort that is being put forth in our normal and high schools, we may expect larger returns in the future.

## THE USE OF BOOKS IN PRISONS\*

By A. C. HILL, *Inspector of Schools, State Education Department, Albany, N. Y.*

It may be said that the inmates of prisons are not suffering for lack of reading matter. The state has been very liberal in providing money for the purchase of books. The prison libraries contain an average of at least 7000 volumes each. Besides this, many of the men are permitted to read newspapers, and, it may be added, more or less books, chiefly of a low type, are smuggled into some of the prisons and quietly passed from man to man.

Moreover, the men have abundance of time for reading. The evenings and holidays are long and lonely in the solitude of the cell, and occupation of some kind is needed to while away the slow moving hours, if for no other purpose.

Books are the natural companions of leisure, and the men who can read turn eagerly to them for amusement, for rest, for consolation and for knowledge, while the illiterate are ready and often very anxious to learn.

These conditions afford an excellent opportunity for giving instruction through the printed page, for utilizing the reading habit in bringing the inmates into close contact with informing and stimulating facts, with the most promising opportunities, with men of the highest achievement, in the hope and confident expectation that the silent influence of books in the quiet of the cell may lead many into a better view of life and a truer conception of their relation to society. For men will often listen to the voice of a book when their ears are closed to the words of the preacher and philanthropist.

Actuated by a desire to improve the condition of convicts and open the door of opportunity to them, Supt. Collins decided some years ago to establish schools in the several prisons of New York. It was possibly the first movement of the kind ever undertaken in any country. There had been schools in reformatories for boys, but schools for adults in prisons were a new development in social progress.

The task of organizing and supervising these schools was put into the hands of the State Education Department and the work has been in progress for four years. There were no precedents to follow. It was not known what could be done nor whether anything of practical value could be accomplished. Evidently, ordinary school methods could not be employed. The problem had to be studied as an original and the work done under unfavorable conditions. The task has been to devise and operate a plan for giving a belated education to men who through ignorance or depravity or both have fallen into the clutches of the law. Every phase of the subject has been carefully studied, and it is believed that some progress has been made in developing a method of reaching and helping men who for various reasons and in various ways have violated the laws of the land and are generally regarded as hopelessly lost to themselves and to society.

One of the first conclusions reached was that reading must be the chief reliance in all efforts to increase the knowledge, correct the reasoning and improve the conduct of men segregated from society. Consequently, this feature of the work has received special attention.

It has become evident that to attain the best results from reading in the prisons several things are essential.

First, the reading should be judiciously but unsparingly restricted. It is safe to say that too many books are accessible to the general reading public, and that much positively harmful or mentally and morally debilitating reading matter is in general circulation among young and old. Even normal minds are suffering from the vast output of the press that is deluging the land and causing mental and moral blight everywhere. It is specially important that men whose mental and moral qualities are diseased and distorted should read books pathologically sound and health-giving. Many books tolerable for normal men and women are entirely out of place in a library provided for those whom the state

\* Read before the New York Library Association, Lake George, Sept. 21, 1909.



seeks to restore to health and return to society saner and better for the treatment administered.

Again, the reading in prisons should be carefully directed and supervised. One of the serious defects in the educational work of the public schools is the failure to properly utilize the reading of pupils. Aimless reading is seldom profitable, and it is decidedly objectionable when there is a definite good to be gained and definite evils to be avoided. In all penal institutions reform should be the end kept constantly in view in everything that is done, and the means employed should be under intelligent guidance. Harm as well as good may come from the reading of men, and it is only when wisely directed and constantly supervised by competent and sympathetic librarians that the use of books in prisons may be a factor in reform.

There are two libraries in each of the three prisons of New York, a general library and a school library. These are under different management and have somewhat different aims and methods. The general library is in charge of the chaplain, who selects the books and arranges for their distribution. Most of the actual work of assigning books and keeping records, however, is done by inmate librarians. The general practice is to give the men the books they want or those most convenient for the librarians to assign. There is no systematic effort to stimulate and cultivate a taste for useful books or to direct and supervise the reading. The task would require more and better help than is at present available. It is estimated that three-fourths of the books in circulation is fiction.

The school libraries are an essential part of the working equipment of the schools. They contain a very limited number of titles and very little fiction. No book is admitted that does not measure up to the standard set for the special work in view. Little attention is paid to literary value. The books deal with realities. The aim is to combine interest and profit; to adapt the reading to the peculiar needs of the men; to accomplish what is possible towards creating better ideals and a truer conception of life.

Each school is in charge of a head teacher,

a civilian with a college or normal school education. He organizes and trains a corps of inmate teachers, who do the school work under his direction and inspiration. The school library is under his care, and he devotes much time and thought to its administration.

The methods employed in the use of books involve several fundamental and important considerations. The reading starts in the class room, is, in fact, an extension of the work of the class room; much reading is done in class; interest is aroused there and the way opened for profitable reading outside. All reading is supervised by the head teacher. The men are questioned on what they have read. On many of the books lists of questions have been prepared as an aid in giving rapid tests of the results of reading. Men are frequently asked to write out the substance of what they have read. A record is kept on cards of the books read, and this becomes a part of the record of school work. The reading is adapted to the men. It is kept in mind that men are not boys; that men in prison are not, as a class, normal men who have developed naturally under normal conditions; that all men in prison are not alike. The aim is to open the door of possibility to all and to reach and help as many as possible. This feature of the work has been found very difficult. An abnormal mind craves unnatural food, and it is not easy to create a taste for useful things when the appetite has been once depraved. Special lines of reading and study are provided to meet special conditions and needs. If a man wishes to perfect himself along some useful line in which he already has some knowledge or experience, pains are taken to supply him with the necessary books.

It is part of the plan for educating men through reading to supplement the reading with talks by outsiders. For example, if a certain class is reading a book on government it is considered a great help to have some competent person read the book at the same time and occasionally speak to the class on some phase of what has been read. Not much has yet been done in this direction because of a lack of the right kind of help to carry it on.

The gaining of knowledge is made promi-



nent in all the work. Geography, history, especially in the form of biography, natural resources, industries, commerce, inventions, personal achievements, government are among the prominent subjects of study. Something of the old Grecian notion actuates the work, that no one is willingly bad, if he knew better he would do better.

Quality not quantity is the motto and guide. The aim is not simply to get books read, but to get results from reading books and talking about them. The tendency is to lessen rather than to increase the number of books dealt with.

Only about 30 per cent. of the men in prison are in school. The accommodations are not sufficient for all, and only the most illiterate and needy are admitted. Then, too, the men have to be dismissed from school at the most interesting and profitable stage of the work to make room for others. What is done has to be done quickly. This fact has been a great obstacle to the accomplishing of the most important part of the work proposed. The head teachers have found it practically impossible to give much attention to the reading of men after they leave the schools.

The New York Library Association and others might be of great service in promoting the work of education through reading in the penal institutions of the state. The first step would be to become thoroughly acquainted with the work that is being done. The head teachers of the various schools would heartily welcome members of this body and gladly show them what is being attempted. You are invited to co-operate with them in this work.

Gifts of money and books are not needed in this movement. The legislature appropriates all that can be wisely used for this purpose.

In other respects, however, the representatives of the people have not been so liberal. There are requirements for the successful prosecution of the work in prisons that have not been met. The failure is no doubt due largely to the fact that public sentiment has not been sufficiently aroused and instructed on the subject. There is probably no matter of public concern that is being so inadequately dealt with as the management of con-

victs. The question, What to do with bad men? remains largely unanswered. While great progress has been made in the methods of forming character through schools, colleges and libraries, little that is effective has been accomplished in devising ways to reform men and women. In fact there is a widespread spirit of pessimism regarding the possibility of reforming criminals. The door of hope is too often closed to the wrongdoer. The great need for outside help is in the direction of creating a better public sentiment in favor of the proper treatment of the prisoner.

So far as the matter before us at this time is concerned, this means the creation of a sentiment in favor of meeting the cost and insisting upon having the right kind of educational conditions within prison walls. The Superintendent of Prisons cannot do what needs to be done without the support of a strong public sentiment. He must have help in his efforts at reform.

Among the things needed to make the educational and library work in prisons in the highest degree effective are:

*First.* The entire elimination of the debasing and enervating paper-covered books that are being surreptitiously brought in and circulated in practically all the prisons of the country.

*Second.* A material reduction in the number of titles received into the libraries by the elimination not only of the supremely bad, but of all books not distinctly bracing and informing to the mind and soul.

*Third.* The employment of civilian librarians of more than ordinary ability and much more than ordinary tact and sympathy; men who know the human mind, in health and disease.

*Fourth.* The library work should be closely connected with the school work, and should be directed and supervised by competent persons.

An effort to bring about these conditions might well be undertaken by the New York State Library Association, and its successful accomplishment would place the prisons of the state in a position to demonstrate what can be done towards reforming men by bringing them into contact with reality through books.

## LIBRARIES IN OKLAHOMA \*

In Oklahoma there are 27 libraries, nine of which are university libraries, one a high school library, while 17 are known as Carnegie, public or city libraries. Of these 22 reported as follows:

1. The State Agricultural and Mechanical University Library, of Stillwater, during the last year has added 500 volumes, making a total of 12,395. They expect soon to reach the 13,000 mark, as they have \$1000 to spend before June 1.

A reference room, 30 x 50 feet, has been fitted up the past year, which can accommodate 50 people.

Reading rooms and stack rooms have been wired this year, and besides regulation lighting, desk lights have been placed on all the tables.

They have arranged that during the school year the library will be open from 7.30 to 9 o'clock.

The reading room accommodates 150 people, and often they have more people than chairs.

They have 500 volumes unprovided for as to shelf room.

No definite plans have so far been made for the future, but they realize that many things must be accomplished this coming year.

2. The State University of Oklahoma at Norman, since the fire in 1903, which swept away all their library, has acquired, up to September, 1908, 12,200 bound volumes, 160 unbound and 2000 government bound volumes, making a total of 14,360, besides 3000 pamphlets. From Sept. 1 of last year they have added 362 bound volumes, 39 unbound and 200 government bound volumes, making in all 601 additions and a library of 14,961 volumes.

The librarian and his two student assistants have been exceedingly busy this last fall and winter. Five hundred and fifteen volumes have been accessioned, embossed and classed; 6000 volumes plated or stamped; 9000 shelf-labelled, and the entire library has been rearranged.

3. During the past six months Miss Canton, librarian of the Central State Normal Library at Edmond, has been assisted by Miss Jane H. Abbott.

The library contains 9000 volumes, but as yet not all of them have been cataloged. A shelf list has been made, several hundred books cataloged, the periodicals put into binders and the books in the various departments, which heretofore had not been accounted for in the main library, have been classified, but there still remains much to be accomplished to bring the library up to date.

\* Extracts from a report on library conditions in Oklahoma by Miss Ava Miles, of the Oklahoma City Library, read at the Oklahoma State Library Association meeting at Guthrie, May 20-21, and reprinted in the *Daily Oklahoman*, May 30.

4. The Southwestern State Normal at Weatherford reports one librarian in charge and the need of at least two assistants.

They have nearly 6000 of well-selected books, and expect to add 1000 during the next school year.

The reference work is very satisfactory and almost incessant.

The past year has been one of great progress, each month marking an advance in the work.

5. The University Preparatory School Library at Tonkawa was organized Sept. 1, 1906. It is free to all connected with the school for circulation, and all others for reference.

For this school year they received an appropriation of \$2000, and as they are supported entirely by the state, they are obliged to keep within that appropriation.

They have added the past year 1325 volumes, which now makes them a total of 2600 volumes, besides 500 public documents.

A larger per cent. of books have been loaned this past year than during any preceding year. Two hundred and eighty-five borrowers' cards are in circulation.

They subscribe to 40 periodicals, 15 newspapers and 5 dailies.

6. Mr. O. A. English, who is evidently in charge of the library at the Henry Kendall College at Tulsa, simply states that they have a reference library of several thousand volumes.

That he could not give any statistics that would be of use for this report, and that there had been no changes of importance during the past year.

7. The Oklahoma Christian University at Enid organized its library last fall, and now have 1800 volumes, all of which have been accessioned, classified and shelf-labelled, while the cataloging is rapidly going on. The Dewey system is in use there.

Their reading room is delightful, and on their racks can be found most of the leading periodicals. The loose-leaf Nelson encyclopedia has been ordered recently.

By Oct. 1, 1909, they hope to add 2000 volumes.

8. The Epworth University Library at Oklahoma City has been built up by donations.

This year the students have had more books for reference work than heretofore, 865 volumes have been added, making a total of 4000 volumes.

They are classified according to the "Dewey system."

Much interest is shown by the students and by the contributors in different localities, and they hope and expect to enlarge their library each year. They hope soon to have a library fund with which to purchase needed books.

9. The Oklahoma City High School has a library of nearly 800 volumes, all well selected, according to the needs of the school.

One hundred and fifty volumes have been

added this last year, and since September they have classified their books according to the Dewey classification, and they expect to catalog them also this year.

The library committee, with the assistance of two students, have done the work so far.

The students have access to the shelves and charge themselves with books when they take them out, which method has worked admirably.

In the new high school building there is to be a room 30 x 50 feet for library purposes, and they hope within a few years to have it well supplied with the books they need.

They are endeavoring to obtain an appropriation from the board of education for five or six hundred dollars to meet pressing needs.

The books they have are used freely, but they need more to meet present demands.

The state library at Guthrie is maintained by legislative appropriations, and is directly under the supervision and control of the board of directors, consisting of the five members of the supreme court of Oklahoma.

It is a United States depository, and receives each year hundreds of books and pamphlets from the government.

In addition to the number of such received during this last year they purchased 2372 volumes, for which \$7315.75 was paid, and they received 240 volumes on exchange account.

Their work has trebled during the past year, and grows heavier weekly on account of the daily accessions and increased patronage of the local and state bar.

11. The Carnegie Library at Guthrie, exclusive of public documents, has added this last year 400 volumes, making a total of 6400. There are 1400 cardholders, among whom during the year 17,106 books circulated.

They carry 50 magazines and papers in the reading room. Their expenditures were \$3200.

The reference department has benefited the students of the schools greatly, and they hope and expect it to reach many more the coming year.

The general reading has been of a much higher class than that of previous years.

They are planning a hard and useful year's work for the coming year.

12. Our president of Shawnee writes that the Carnegie Library of Shawnee has added 898 borrowers' cards.

They have purchased 919 volumes during the year, which makes a total of 5000 volumes.

Since March, 1909, 29,691 volumes have been loaned.

The reading room has 11 newspapers and 51 magazines. The reference work has doubled over the preceding year.

13. The Lawton Public Library was opened Oct. 6, 1904, with 615 volumes. Not having a book fund, they derive the wherewithal to

buy books from the sale of membership cards and the fines collected on over-due books.

From the opening of their library to their report to the association last May they had added 911 volumes, making 1525. Since last May they have added 101, making in all 1626 volumes.

During the last year they have become crowded in their two rooms in the city hall, which has been their home for the past three years, and recently the board has been discussing the matter of securing larger rooms.

They receive 15 periodicals and three dailies. During the past year they have loaned 7154 books, and the reading room was visited by 4067 persons, which exceeds greatly anything in previous years.

14. The Enid Public Library, from the sale of membership cards and fines, received the past year \$182.14, which is used for their incidental expenses. All other expenses are covered by the fund received from taxation.

They subscribe to 28 periodicals and eight newspapers. At present their books number 1902, 195 having been added the past year by purchase, nine by gift.

There are 189 subscribers. The average number of books taken out per day is 15, the average number of visitors to the reading room, 30.

At present they are located in two large rooms, but having received a gift of \$25,000 from Mr. Carnegie for a library building, they hope to have it completed by the close of the year.

The new site has been purchased and work on the new building will begin soon.

During the past year the books have all been classified and a catalog will be commenced soon. In addition to their books they have 75 volumes of bound magazines and several hundred volumes of government documents.

The coming year promises to be a bright one, inasmuch as they will have a new building, will become a free library, have more money to buy books, and hence a much larger patronage.

The librarian in charge hopes to have two assistants when they move into the new building.

15. On Dec. 9, 1908, the Woman's History Club of Muskogee opened to the public what is known as the "Muskogee Public Library."

They opened with 600 volumes upon the shelves, have since increased till they have now about 1000, 92 of which are historical, 150 juvenile, and some books of poetry, religion, description and travel.

Their reading room is free, and upon the table may be found 20 of the leading magazines, the daily papers, etc.

The city donates \$50 per month, the subscription fee is \$1 per year.

They are located in Room 7, Turner building, corner of Main and Broadway, and cor-

dially invite any visitors of the city to visit them.

They expect to make a great advance the coming year.

16. Blackwell has a small library controlled by the ladies of the Chautauqua.

It is maintained by means of a membership fee of \$1 annually to all members, the proceeds from a lecture course and the voluntary contributions of books.

They at present occupy a room for which they pay \$4 per month.

The library is open in the afternoon from two to five on Tuesday and Friday.

They have nearly 1000 books, two-thirds of which are of little value, consisting of "odds and ends" gained through contribution.

The readers are mostly young people. During the last year 150 books have been added. The beginning is a small one, but they hope some day to possess an elegant building filled with books.

17. The Carnegie Library of Chickasha is much encouraged over the work of last year, and feels that the prospects for the future are much brighter.

The coming of statehood has meant so very much to the Indian Territory portion of our new state.

Before statehood they had no law whereby the municipal government could assess a tax for the support of libraries, so it was ever a struggle for them to exist, and the joy they experience in throwing aside the shackles which for so long bound them we of our portion of the state are scarcely able to appreciate.

The past year has been their most prosperous in many ways. Their borrowers have increased from 750 to 1055; 400 volumes have been added, while the circulation and also the attendance in the reading room has greatly increased.

They are greatly pleased in the knowledge that they are reaching more and more the homes without libraries.

18. In Kingston a library club was organized in 1908 for the purpose of building up a library. They now have 137 volumes, among which may be found the ten histories of the world, Hill's encyclopedia and others useful to school pupils.

They wish to classify and catalog their books and more than double their present number during the coming year.

19. In the spring of 1902 the citizens of El Reno presented a resolution to the city council asking them to levy a tax for the maintenance of a city library and that a library board be appointed, with which requests the council complied.

Immediately the Athenæum Club gave a book shower, which resulted in between 400 and 500 books being given. Later the Y. M. C. A. gave a book shower, which added nearly 800 volumes, which so inspired them that

they longed for a suitable home for their books.

In 1904, through the efforts of the mayor at that time, a gift of \$12,500 was given by Mr. Carnegie for a library building, which was dedicated on June 14, 1905.

Since Jan. 1, 1909, the charge of \$1 for membership cards has been eliminated and they have become a free library.

During 1908 the number of cardholders was less than 90; on Feb. 26, 1909, they numbered 381.

They have 2781 volumes. Their tax levy is 7½ mills, which will net them about \$3000 this year.

Miss Elizabeth Sinclair has just been installed, and a busy and most prosperous year is anticipated.

20. The Carnegie Library at Tahlequah has not so far been supported by the town, hence it has only been open for one year to the public since its completion.

An appropriation has been made this year, but as it is not yet due they have found it very difficult to exist.

They have 1000 volumes, very few of which were purchased this last year.

Their attendance is very good, especially among the boys. They hope to grow much during the coming year.

21. The Carnegie Library in Ardmore has been greatly hindered in its work through lack of funds. They have, however, added four hundred new volumes in the last year, which, with the books already on the shelves, provides reading for about 1000 borrowers.

Their ambition is to circulate better books instead of more books, and the past year's work has been highly encouraging in that respect.

Their efforts will be centered this year towards the building up of their children's department.

They desire to be able to place before each grade a list of books suited to their needs both for study and general reading.

Mr. Jones has as yet no assistance.

22. The Carnegie Library at Oklahoma City has practically been at a standstill for one year as regards development and usefulness to the public.

Because of enlarging the original building by using the gift of Mr. Carnegie, the library was crowded into one room, which was without artificial light, and with no heat except what could be obtained from a wood fire in a shallow fire-place. This gift of Mr. Carnegie's consisted of \$25,000 to increase the dimensions of the building and \$10,000 for extra finishing and new furniture, which makes the total donation from this generous giver of libraries to the one in Oklahoma City \$60,000.

The hours of opening have been shortened, and some days the doors remained closed. It has been gratifying to know that the patrons



appreciated their privileges, and even during zero weather sat with overcoats and gloves on in order to read and look up references.

No books have been purchased for a year excepting a few volumes for the reference department, as Nelson's Loose-leaf Encyclopedia and many of the Underwood stereoscopes and descriptive texts.

The library has been given many volumes, however, so that the statistics show added volumes 839, making a total of 11,366. There are 1402 government publications cataloged and 2000 uncataloged.

The dictionary catalog has been "overhauled," and all errors in names, dates, and subjects corrected, while cross-reference cards for the whole alphabet were made and inserted.

There were added to the list of borrowers' cards during the year 1254 and cancelled 98, so the total number of cardholders is 10,302.

The circulation for home use was 47,767.

It is hoped that this coming year the periodicals may be bound, the files of government publications completed, and works on travel, literature, history and encyclopedias on special subjects added, so that the library may be of service to persons throughout the state.

From these brief summaries of the conditions existing in the libraries throughout our state we gather that in most of them a good foundation has been laid which eventually will culminate in storehouses of wisdom, depositories of the great intellects of all ages.

#### DISADVANTAGES OF REINFORCED BINDING

IN the interest of carrying business methods into the administration of the public library, I would submit the following statement:

I have before me the latest list of one of the specialists in "reinforced" bindings, asking me to pay \$1.40 for a book which I can buy in the publisher's cloth for \$1.

In response to such circulars I believe that some librarians are ordering their new novels bound in this expensive fashion. Are they, in doing this, looking at the matter from a strictly business point of view? Are they not rather paying for two bindings in the first place, by paying 40 c. in addition to the price for which they may buy the book in the trade binding? Are they not forgetting that although the reinforced binding may last forever, they are losing the advantage, not to be ignored in a public library, of having two clean covers, two clean sets of end papers, and fresh edges; and, most important of all, are they not clearly wasting their money in those cases where the book and the trade binding go to the wall together, which in my experience is a very common occurrence? I

have just now been looking over the novels which are waiting to go to the binder—there are only three, as a box has just been sent off. These three books have been issued 76, 63, and 50 times, respectively. They will now be bound in full English morocco cloth at a cost of 40 c. apiece, and this binding will last as long as the books, in fact it will last longer, and will look wonderfully fresh when the books have to be discarded as dirty and worn out. Then we find, as I said before, that a great many novels, and also many children's books, go to pieces all together, inside and outside. While this is the case, can we afford to pay that extra 40 c. for superfluous strength of binding?

LOUISA M. HOOPER,

Librarian Brookline (Mass.) Public Library.  
OCTOBER 4, 1909.

#### MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION IN ENGLAND

(Reprinted in part from the *Athenaeum*, August 14, 1909.)

THE first annual meeting of the newly-formed Medical Library Association was held at Queen's University, Belfast, on Wednesday, July 28. After the transaction of some preliminary business, the president, Professor W. Osler, gave one of his characteristic addresses. He began by referring to the honorable record of English physicians as book-lovers and collectors since the 13th century, and said his experience had been that there were more medical libraries in this country than in any other. He emphasized the importance of reading as part of post-graduate study. There had been men whose only book was nature, but they were the exceptions. The average non-reading doctor might play a good game of golf or of bridge, but professionally he was a lost soul. The driven and tired practitioner might plead that he could not find time to read. He could not unless he had formed the practice in less busy days; then the habit of reading, like any other habit, became his master. He should get away from the notion that it was necessary to read much. One or two journals and a few books every year were enough, if read properly. Journals should be kept and filed for reference, and all reading should be done with that mental concentration which made reading work. It was easier to buy books than to read them, and easier to read them than to absorb them. He urged on the meeting the collection of books on a definite system as the best of hobbies for the medical man.

In conjunction with the annual meeting an exhibition of medical mss., books, photographs of libraries, etc., was held in the engineering drawing-room of the University.

The headquarters of the Association are at the University, Manchester.



# LIBRARY WEEK AT SAGAMORE, LAKE GEORGE, SEPT. 20-27

THE 19th annual meeting of the New York Library Association was held at the Sagamore on Lake George, Sept. 20-27. The official register shows an attendance of 177 persons while the tickets viséd show that 212 persons were there as members of the Association. While the large libraries of the state were generously represented, it is gratifying to record that many librarians of the smaller institutions were in attendance. The Committee of the American Library Association on Co-ordination of College Libraries took this occasion to hold a meeting, thus bringing to our state gathering an added degree of interest and pleasure.

The first session was called to order on Monday evening, Sept. 20, by the president, Mr. Willard Austen, of Cornell University Library. Mr. W. K. Bixby, former trustee of the St. Louis Public Library and a summer resident on the shores of Lake George, extended a cordial welcome to the visiting association.

Then followed the president's address upon "Educational value of bibliographical training" (see p. 427). Mr. E. W. Gaillard then presented the treasurer's report, which showed a balance of \$499.27, and was referred to the auditing committee.

Mr. W. R. Eastman, chairman of the Committee on institutes, offered a full report, which was accepted. The gist of this report is covered by information on round-tables held in the state during the year (see p. 449).

Mr. C. B. Lester then presented his report as chairman of the Committee on legislation. He stated that the only item of New York legislation to be noted is the bringing together in Article 42 of the Consolidated Education Law, which is chapter 16 of the Consolidated Laws (Laws of 1909, chap. 21) of the various existing statutes relative to libraries. These provisions of the statutes were found in the University Law, the Consolidated School Law and in a number of other general laws. As they are somewhat cumbrous and antiquated in form it is suggested that this article of the Education Law is in need of some revision which may even be undertaken by the legislature at its next session, and it is suggested that a committee so made up as to be fully conversant with the library needs of the state in legislation might well study the existing provisions of article 42 and submit such suggestions as might appear wise with reference to this subject.

This report was accepted and referred to the incoming Committee on legislation.

Announcements were then made by the president of the names of those appointed as "specialists" on certain subjects of whom questions might be asked informally during the week. The following committees were

appointed by the chair, to report at a later session: Nominating, Edwin H. Anderson, Harriet B. Prescott, Frances Rathbone. Auditing, Theresa Hitchler, William R. Eastman. Resolutions, Arthur E. Bostwick, Mary W. Plummer, Mrs. H. L. Elmendorf.

At the session on Tuesday morning Mrs. S. C. Fairchild was introduced, and conducted another very interesting and profitable "book symposium," which is reported elsewhere (see p. 444).

The afternoon was devoted to the enjoyment of out-door pleasures, tea being served on a neighboring island.

Tuesday evening's session was opened by a paper by Mr. A. C. Hill, member of the State Education Department. Mr. Hill's paper was entitled "Reading for penal and charitable institutions" (see p. 431).

Mr. Hill suggested that the N. Y. L. A. send a representative to the meetings of the State committee on "Schools in prisons for adults."

Mr. R. R. Bowker from the floor expressed appreciation of Mr. Hill's paper, and made the following motion: "That a committee be appointed to attend the meetings of the State committee on schools in prisons for adults, made up of persons properly adapted to consider this subject and located near the great institutions." This motion was seconded by Mr. F. C. Hicks and carried unanimously. This committee was later appointed by the president. A report on the Auburn prison library, made by Miss Elizabeth P. Clark, librarian of the Seymour Library in Auburn, at the request of President Austen, was handed to the secretary.

Following this subject Mr. Austen introduced Prof. Nathaniel Schmidt, of Cornell University, "one of our foremost Semitic scholars," who gave a most powerful and illuminating address on Henrik Ibsen.

On Wednesday morning the session on Children's work was opened by Mr. Austen, who introduced Miss Mary Massee, of the Buffalo Public Library, as conductor for the morning.

A paper entitled "But wise wordes, taught in numbers for to runne."

Recorded by the Muses, live for ay," prepared by Mrs. H. L. Elmendorf, was read by Miss Massee. The place poetry might and should have in the lives of children and to understand what child life had given to the poets themselves was the purpose of the paper.

This was followed by the topic "Foreign children in the public library," by Mrs. John Mokrejs, in which the point of the library's responsibility in keeping alive for a child of foreign parents the traditions and history of its parents' land was emphasized. She said, in part:

"The demands of children on the public library have been enlarged for some years, and the work with children is becoming an

important part of the library's activities. With the large number of children of foreign parentage coming to this country a new problem confronts the library; that is, the supplying of proper reading for the foreign child. These children have as their birthright the language and the literature of the country from which they have come. With each new language we have added to our lives the enjoyments and the literature of that language, so it is important that those having another language have also the books of that language.

... In the work with foreign children the librarian must assume responsibility, and it rests with the library whether the work is to be done at all. If it is worth the time and energy that most people give to acquire a new language, then the task of keeping up a language that a child already has is of great importance.

"When this question of language ceases to be important for its own sake there is the great responsibility of tradition. The whole world is richer for having the traditions of the Scotch people, and on account of these they will remain an individual nation in our minds in spite of the fact that they cease to be an individual nation historically. If the traditions of the Bohemians are not to be lost the language must be kept up at least until it can be translated into English; and the person who could best do this is not the Bohemian in Bohemia, but the Bohemian in America. . . . The fact that so few people realize that the library is making an effort to help foreigners makes it doubly important that the library should not hesitate to call attention to the fact.

"Every foreign child should know the traditions and the history of its parents' land, for these are the ones who will be able to make use of this material and give it to us in the same beautiful form in our own language. Truth and beauty are not limited to any one nation, and must be sought for among all, so these children must have an opportunity of getting the beauty from every nation. Every nation has its place in the expression of beauty.

"To the extent that the public library makes use of the foreign books will its interest be greater and broader."

Discussion of the subject followed, introduced by Miss A. C. Moore, of the New York Public Library.

Then followed a paper by Miss Agnes Cowing, of the Pratt Institute Library, giving her experiences with the Italian children.

Miss Massee and Miss Moore then called attention to several lists of books and to the exhibition of foreign books for children which had been sent by the New York Public Library. Most of these were in Bohemian, and showed many most attractive editions. There was also a collection of posters by Bohemian artists and other material which had been

useful in promoting this work. As an illustration of material to be found hidden in foreign literature, Mrs. Mokrejs told in her most engaging manner the devil story taken from legends found in Bohemian literature.

The afternoon session was called to order by Mr. Austen. The report of the Nominating Committee was first called for. It was as follows: for president, Mr. W. Dawson Johnston, librarian of Columbia University; vice-president, Miss Emily S. Coit, Buffalo Public Library; secretary, Miss Mary L. Davis, Troy Public Library; treasurer, Mr. Edwin W. Gaillard, New York Public Library. These were elected at the concluding session of the meeting.

The topic of the afternoon was "Books for foreign readers," opened by Miss J. M. Campbell, of Passaic, N. J., who introduced Mr. F. H. Rindge, secretary of the International Committee of the Y. M. C. A. Mr. Rindge gave a very live picture of the work with foreigners from a new point of view. An outline of his talk follows:

"There are in North America at the present time 35,000,000 inhabitants of foreign birth and their children of the first generation, and one-fourth of the foreign born have come to this country since 1900. We must consider the change of immigration from the Northwest to the Southeast of Europe, and when we add to this fact the additional very significant fact that the illiteracy of Northwestern Europe is three per cent. and that of Southeastern Europe is 40 per cent., and that at the present time 75 per cent. of the immigrants are coming from Southeastern Europe, you have some idea at least of the magnitude of the problem that we are endeavoring to solve. To weave this mass into a homogeneous population is a task that is testing the resources and ingenuity of the American people to the utmost.

"Various agencies are trying to do this work, and the Y. M. C. A. has felt the challenge and it is trying to meet it, and to meet it squarely. Let me briefly describe our plan: In the first place, on the other side, at the points of embarking, association men are placed who are helping these immigrants as they embark. These association men give the immigrants cards of introduction to our secretaries at the points of landing, especially at Ellis Island, where we have three men employed at the present time, and hope shortly to have more. In trans-Atlantic transit these immigrants are looked after by volunteer help as far as possible. Literature relating to the laws and customs of the country to which they are destined is freely distributed. On reaching Ellis Island the immigrants are met by our representatives there, who give them cards of introduction to the secretaries of the cities to which they are destined. We try to encourage the right kind of treatment while in transit by the railroad

companies, etc. On reaching his destination, the immigrant presents his card of introduction to the secretary of the home city, and this secretary is expected to help the immigrant along by explaining to him again if needed the laws and customs. . . . We see the great importance of teaching foreigners the English language. In this regard the association is having great success. We are using at our schools a system by which the foreigner can master 50 words an hour. I have seen this done, and in fact I have done it myself and therefore know it to be true. We have classes at which we endeavor to teach foreigners our laws, the methods of voting, how to get naturalization papers, and such other things as are essential to a foreigner. We feel that the library can also be of great service in this respect.

"Another part of our scheme which I think will particularly appeal to the library is the college side of the problem. We are endeavoring to enlist the college man in this service. Two years ago Yale University sent 50 of its students into the districts where these foreigners live to teach them English, and several hundred foreigners attended these classes.

"The Steiner expedition which recently went abroad to study the foreigner in his home is having good results. We cannot understand the foreigner in this country unless we understand him in his own country."

Mr. Rindge had with him samples of many circulars and folders which they are using in this work, explaining that they may be had free of charge upon application to the International Committee of the Y. M. C. A., 124 East 28th street, New York City.

This talk was followed by a paper entitled "The library and the foreigner," by Dr. Arthur E. Bostwick, of the New York Public Library, which gave a very practical view of the conditions in New York City. The paper emphasized the need of action on the part of libraries.

Mr. R. R. Bowker arose, and in a few well chosen and appreciative words referred to the good work of Dr. Bostwick, and moved "a rising vote in expression of our affection and best wishes as he goes to his new work as librarian of the St. Louis Public Library." This was carried most heartily and accepted feelingly by Dr. Bostwick.

Miss Campbell then introduced Prof. Edward H. Lewinski, of Columbia University, who gave a paper on the Slavs and their reading, which will also be published later.

The subject was then open for discussion. Miss Campbell asked for reports from cities represented of the work being done. Miss Mary Massee spoke for Buffalo of the good work accomplished among the Poles, and Miss C. M. Underhill for Utica in reference to the Italian readers. Miss Campbell showed the need of a standard to live up to, recommending some of the better lists and exhibit-

ing catalogs of practical use. The Detroit Public Library, the Chicago Public Library and also the Wisconsin Library Commission have published good lists, especially of Bohemian books. The Bohemian Publishing Co. in New York City is reliable. Hoepli's catalogs are helpful in compiling Italian lists, and both the Biagi list and the Fumagalli list should be known and used. For the Norwegian and Danish books the A. L. A. lists will be a good selection to start with, while the Buffalo, Detroit and Springfield Public Libraries have excellent lists in Polish.

Mr. Solis-Cohen said: "The Brooklyn Public Library recently published a list of Yiddish books, the especially helpful feature of which is the fact that the English characters are used in its make up. . . . There are generally two editions of all Yiddish books—the foreign edition, printed on good paper, and the local edition, printed in New York on a poorer quality of paper. The reason for such poor editions is that they are published for poor people, who cannot afford to pay very much. It is always desirable to buy the foreign edition, and the order should cover that point. Another point about buying Yiddish books is that it is generally best to buy them unbound. The bound book costs about 10 cents more, and if an unbound edition cannot be secured it is generally advisable to rip the binding off and have it rebound before putting it in the library." Druckermann, 52 Canal street, New York City, will import the good edition.

Wednesday evening was most pleasantly given over to the book-title party and dance under the guidance of the Indoor entertainment committee, and on Thursday there was a trip to Ticonderoga and tramps abroad for the energetic members, arranged by the Outdoor entertainment committee.

On Friday morning the meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Austen.

The first business was the announcement of the Committee on reading in penal and charitable institutions, appointed by the chair, as recommended in the session of Tuesday evening: Mr. Asa Wynkoop, State Library, Albany, N. Y., chairman; Mr. A. C. Hill, Education Department, Albany, N. Y.; Miss C. M. Underhill, Public Library, Utica, N. Y.; Miss E. P. Clarke, Seymour Library, Auburn, N. Y.

The report of the Auditing committee was called for and presented by Mr. Eastman, who said that the committee had examined and found correct the treasurer's books.

The report of the Committee on resolutions was presented by Mr. A. C. Bostwick, chairman, as follows:

In closing its 19th annual meeting, one of the most successful in its history, the New York Library Association desires to record its appreciation of various courtesies on the part of its friends on Lake George, the unfailing kindness and liberality of Mr. Edmund Krumbholz, of the Hotel Sagamore, and

the hospitality on land and water of Mr. William K. Bixby.

To the various speakers who have come from afar to favor the Association with addresses or papers it desires to extend cordial thanks.

*Resolved*, That this Association extend its congratulations to two of its members, Mr. Charles Alexander Nelson and Miss Margaret Van Zandt, both of Columbia University Library, who have during the past year completed long and useful careers in library work and have been placed on the *emeritus* list of their University.

*Resolved*, That in the untimely death of our associate, Dr. James H. Canfield, librarian of Columbia University, the Association has lost a valued helper and adviser, a link between the library and the other educational interests of the state. By his genial personality and his enthusiasm he had so endeared himself not only to the Association as a whole, but to its members individually, and by his unusual ability as a public speaker he had so advanced the interests of libraries in this state that his place will not soon be filled. Submitted,

(Signed) ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK,  
MARY W. PLUMMER,  
THERESA ELMENDORF,

Mr. Austen then introduced the subject of the morning, "Reading for rural communities." A report of the committee appointed last year was then read by Miss Zaidee Brown, chairman (*see p. 445*).

Dean Bailey, being formally introduced by Mr. Austen, contributed greatly to the profit of the afternoon by his "pleasant preamble" of the subject, as he expressed it. Unfortunately it is impossible to report the paper at present. Reference was made to Robert's "Fertility of the land," the first chapter of which is a most inspiring piece of countryward literature.

A letter was read by Miss Brown from Miss Martha Van Rensselaer, second member of the committee, expressing her regret at her necessary absence.

Miss Caroline Webster, also a member of the committee, related her efforts in talking at teachers' institutes towards directing the reading of the children in rural communities, by use of travelling libraries, or better by permanent collections.

Miss Grace L. Betteridge, of the State Library, showed how much is needed the help of the outsider—the tax-payer—before the State Education Department can create requests for travelling libraries, the line between the general public and the members of the Grange being very marked in its limitations.

Mr. J. I. Wyer, librarian of the State Library, gave a general review of the state work through its travelling library department, saying that while a feeling of humiliation oppressed him at the little which had been done, he saw a large field for future work and hoped the State Library would find its great opportunity.

Mrs. S. C. Fairchild emphasized the need of the "dynamic librarian" in the midst of all this work.

Mr. Eastman introduced the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the lack of libraries in the country and small villages calls for organized effort, that workers should be enlisted for each county, so far as practicable, and that the Executive committee appoint a committee to have charge of this work.

Mr. L. O. Wiswell, of the School Department at Albany, spoke of the necessity of all workers for a common end "getting together" to establish something permanent. The travelling library carries with it a certain "lack of permanency" which is undesirable. Mr. Eastman arose "to recommend to the Executive committee to pay the necessary expenses of the Committee of library extension so far as the yearly income of the Association will justify." This was so voted. At the request of the committee the following resolution was also introduced by the secretary, so that too much undirected work might not be left to volunteer helpers:

*Resolved*, Owing to the need of libraries in the small villages and open country of this state, where there are as yet no public libraries, that the Education Department be urged to appoint a competent field worker, whose duty it shall be to work in such places, to encourage the use of travelling libraries, and to co-operate in all ways with the volunteer workers of this Association.

An invitation from the Rochester Chamber of Commerce to hold our next meeting in the city of Rochester was read. Limited discussion and remarks followed.

This session was called to order by the vice-president, Miss A. R. Phelps, who called first for the report of the Committee on normal schools. Miss M. W. Plummer, chairman, presented the report, which was approved and accepted.

The report stated that the energies of the committee have been exerted chiefly vicariously during the past year, through its sub-committee on high schools. The progress made has been principally in the preparation of an outline for a course of study in books and library methods for normal schools. This outline had been roughly prepared at the time of the lamented death of Dr. James H. Canfield, a member of the committee. The appointment of a new member, Mr. W. Dawson Johnston, to succeed him brought a new point of view into the committee, and some changes were made in the plan of the outline, which Mr. Johnston advised dividing into two parts, one for librarians in normal schools, giving instruction, the other for teachers. His view appealed to the committee, and the work is being reshaped. On this, therefore, the committee reports progress.

The committee thought it time that the subject of libraries and schools be again brought before the University Convocation, as library interests had not appeared upon that program for some years. The request was made of the State Commissioner of Education that an opportunity for representation be given, and he at once promised this. Accordingly, a part of one afternoon at the next Convocation



in October will be given to our subject, which will be represented as follows: Mr. W. Dawson Johnston, on "The library as a reinforcement of the school." Discussion by Miss Ida M. Mendenhall, under the title "A new method," and by Miss Mary E. Hall, under the title "A case in point." As Convocation is attended by all the leading school men of the state, the opportunity to put before them the desirability of closer connection between the schools and the library and of instruction in the use of books both as tools and as a means of culture is one to be valued.

The steady, unremitting pressure of librarians upon the school authorities in several states is bearing fruit, as shown by Dr. Felmley's address at the last meeting but one of the National Education Association and that of Mr. Edward J. Banta before the American Library Association last July. On the other hand, the section on libraries in the N. E. A. has been abandoned. Since the appointment of the normal school committee by this Association the following steps in advance have been taken, directly owing, we are told by a normal school principal, to the work of the committee; for the first time credits were given in the normal schools for the work in the use of the library and of books.

Miss Mary E. Hall, chairman of the Committee on high school libraries, then read the report of that committee, which was approved and accepted. This long and valuable report is worthy of full presentation, but lack of space compels the briefest mention of its essential points. In 1907 Dr. Downing, state commissioner of education, suggested before the New York Library Association that attention be given to high school libraries. A committee was appointed by the Association in 1908 to make an investigation of library conditions in high schools and report in the annual meeting, September, 1909. At a committee meeting in February the method of investigation was determined upon. It was decided to limit the investigation to high schools reporting 100 pupils and 1000 or more volumes in the school library.

Questionnaire was sent to some 83 schools, 31 of which failed to reply, and of those replying only a few sent more than the briefest answers. The investigation was unsatisfactory in that the high schools reporting were not representative of general high school conditions throughout the state, and in that the brief replies while throwing light on existing conditions leave much unsaid as to the actual use and interest of these libraries. Perhaps the most important result of the investigation is the opportunity offered for a definite movement toward the betterment of library conditions in high schools.

Detailed tabulated information as to the work of these high school libraries was included in Miss Hall's report, and it is of interest to note here that 25 of the 52 libraries

tabulated are in charge of librarians who have had some library experience or training. Most of these librarians have come into the high schools since 1903, the first appointment of a high school librarian in New York City was in 1900.

Aside from these 25 schools where there are trained librarians, most of the libraries report that the principal's clerk or secretary acts as librarian. Salaries, scope and character of libraries, methods of selection, amount of annual appropriation, use of mounted photographs, classroom or departmental libraries, hours of opening, and methods of library use are considered in the report. In reference to the amount of instruction given in use of books and library in the high schools of New York state, a few schools report incidental instruction by English teachers and only five schools give systematic instruction, two giving a series of five lessons to each pupil. Five schools report some preparatory work in the eighth and ninth grades.

In New York City only one high school, the Morris High School, has made a beginning along this line.

Very little effective co-operation has as yet been made between the school library and the public library. At the close of its report the committee recommends that an effort be made to have the library and its relation to school work represented by a paper at the annual meeting of the State Teachers' Association, if not in 1909, at least one year from that time, with possibly an attempt to establish a library section in this association; and that the New York State Education Department extend its aid to the many untrained high-school librarians that may give them a knowledge of simple methods and helps in caring for these libraries.

After a resolution introduced by Mr. Eastman, that the Executive committee take steps to bring the points of these papers to the attention of the State Education Department, Prof. G. P. Bristol, of Cornell, spoke upon "High school libraries in New York state," closing his paper with the following concise statement:

"1. Instruction to-day is largely through the medium of books, and their influence is, perhaps, little less than that of the teachers themselves. Books for high school libraries should be carefully selected by persons competent to secure in them scientific accuracy and good literary form.

"2. The high school library should provide means for the mental growth of the teachers. This is specially necessary in the smaller towns, where there is no public library. There will be no harm done if the books open to the pupils are a step or two above them. They will never reach up if everything is "written down" for their easier understanding.

"3. In the buying of books for the high school library expert knowledge is necessary.



The librarian should be given a large voice in this.

"4. School libraries should be open for use during longer hours (and days) in the week than is now commonly the case. They must be treated more seriously, and recognized as one of the most important instruments of education."

Miss Celia M. Houghton, librarian of the Albany High School, followed by a short talk upon "The school library from a high school librarian's point of view."

Miss Ida Mendenhall, librarian of the Genesee Normal School, followed upon "The need for systematic instruction of students in the use of books and library," and said in part:

"I want to emphasize the reason for encouraging the teaching of high school students in the use of the library. Many of these students go out as our rural school teachers. The strongest point made by Dr. Downing two years ago was, I think, that we should interest the high school student in the library training. One of the greatest needs among rural school teachers is that they be given training in the use of books and in selecting books for the school library and in bringing children to the library. A great many of the small high school teachers do not know library details and methods, and they have never been given a knowledge that will help them in selecting books for the school library, and until teachers be given such training there will always be a chasm between the library and the school. When the teacher is trained in the selection of books as a result of her work, the well-selected library is bound to follow and it will be intelligently used. I should recommend that such instruction be required in the high schools, and that it also be introduced into teachers' institutes.

"There is another way of reaching rural schools. There are about 80 training schools for teachers in New York state. These training schools supply most of the rural teachers of New York state, and I would like to recommend that an investigation be made into the library conditions in these training schools. I am convinced more and more that the training of teachers in the training and normal schools lies at the very root of the solution of the library and school question."

"Co-operation between high school and public library" was the subject of the next talk, by Mr. W. F. Seward, librarian of the Binghamton Public Library. The following points were made by Mr. Seward:

(1) The personal invitation of the teachers to the library not only for books, but for their meetings, lectures, etc., was emphasized.

(2) A series of talks on history, "not to teach, but to attract to the library and the subject" was described as having been of great result in Binghamton.

(3) Library instruction in school, especially in the seventh and eighth grades, was recommended, when sample card catalog cards with instruction as to their use could be given—or classes could better be sent to the library with their teachers.

(4) It was recommended that a library representative attend faculty and teachers' meetings as far as possible.

Mr. Wiswell, representing the school department at Albany, pointed out that library instruction to both children and teachers was most important. He said libraries should make themselves better known among the teachers, inviting them for lists of books, suggestions and offering reciprocally the same.

Further discussion followed.

The final session was called to order at 8.30 p.m. Friday evening instead of Saturday morning, as arranged in the program.

As the first business of the evening Miss M. W. Plummer asked if it would not be well to ask the state to publish the proceedings. After a few incidental remarks Mr. Eastman offered the following motion.

*Resolved*, That the publication of the proceedings of this meeting be placed in the hands of a committee, and that we desire that if possible they should be printed by the State Education Department.

This motion was seconded by Mr. Wynkoop and carried.

Mr. E. H. Anderson then suggested that perhaps *New York Libraries* would publish the important articles, which would be sufficient, but Miss Plummer again spoke of the need of the Proceedings being available, the papers appearing elsewhere. Thereupon the president appointed a committee of Mr. J. I. Wyer and Miss C. M. Underhill to follow the above motion. He also appointed the Committee on normal schools as follows: Miss M. W. Plummer, chairman; Miss Ida Mendenhall, Mr. W. Dawson Johnston; Committee on high schools, Miss M. E. Hall, chairman, Miss Celia M. Houghton, Miss Alice Stevens, Brooklyn Girls' high school, Miss Harriette Arden, New York City, Miss Emile Coit, Buffalo; Committee on rural communities, Miss Zaidee Brown, chairman, Miss A. R. Phelps, Miss Martha Van Rensselaer, with power to add to this committee as needed. The Committee on institutes and legislation should be appointed by the incoming Executive board.

After the election of officers reported by the Nominating committee, Mr. Gaillard called for an informal vote as to place of meeting next year—whether to return to the Sagamore or to go elsewhere. Majority vote to return.

After Mr. Fred Erb had offered a resolution, which was carried, that the officers who have served the Association so faithfully be thanked, adjournment was made.

C. M. UNDERHILL, Secretary.

## BOOK SYMPOSIUM AT LAKE GEORGE

THE second Book Symposium of the New York State Library Association, held Tuesday, Sept. 21, is reported separately in order to give other members of the Association a more complete idea of the books presented.

The first number on the program was Miss Mary W. Plummer's delicately humorous and wholly delightful paper on "The seven joys of reading." It is hoped that it may ultimately be printed in a literary magazine.

Mrs. S. C. Fairchild, who conducted the session, quoted Miss Plummer's definition of the Book Symposium as "a delightful occasion for every one who likes or prizes a book to give his reasons, or if he pleases, just stand up and enthuse." She also alluded to Dr. Thwaites' recipe for getting Parkman read—"The librarian must himself read Parkman," for, to use the words of Miss Frances Rathbone, "Every book that we know we cause to be read many times more than one which we know about." Mrs. Fairchild spoke of her enthusiasm for the *Odyssey*, which she believes makes a natural appeal to more people and to more types of readers than any other world classic. Pope she called the great discourager of reading Homer. She deprecated keeping his translation on the open shelves. After reading several translations and consulting lovers of Greek literature, she unhesitatingly recommended as best the prose translations of Butcher and Lang and of Prof. Palmer, finding little choice between the two. The verse translations by Bryant, Worsley and William Morris were commended.

Mr. R. R. Bowker spoke entertainingly of a recent journey to South America and of the Trans-Andean Reading Club improvised on the voyage. He re-read Prescott's "Conquest of Peru" with a new sense of the wonderful mastery of detail by a blind author. He especially commended as the best recent book on South America "The other Americans," by A. B. Ruhl, who made the journey in 1907. Osborn's "The Andean land" he characterized as "padded." He believes that Clarke, of Christian Endeavor fame, wrote his "Continent of opportunity" on the decks of steamers, "not making a Christian endeavor to get the facts." Carpenter's "South America," 1900, and Alcock's "Trade and travel in South America," 1903, are more reliable as to facts. Dawson's "South American republics," 1903. Story of the Nations series, gives a popular history. The latest and most authoritative books of information are published by T. Fisher Unwin, London, one for each nation, volumes on "Chile" and "Peru" being already issued. Statistical year-books are published by Brazil and Argentine, but at a high price. The best popular atlas is that of Hachette, "Atlas Clasico para Latin-America," edited by Schrader and Gallonedié, Paris, 1908. The monthly "Bulletin of American Republics" is

practically a monthly record of current information of first importance and value, with excellent maps and good illustrations, and this, with the *National Geographical Magazine*, should be found even in small libraries.

"The memoirs of Mistral" was happily introduced by Miss Isabel Ely Lord, who related an incident of his childhood so dramatically as to give her audience the spirit of this beauty-loving Provençal poet.

Mr. W. Dawson Johnston, librarian of Columbia University, sent an appreciation of the "Memoir of Henry Bradshaw," which was read by Mr. E. H. Anderson. Mr. Johnston recalled the keen pleasure with which he absorbed the "romances" of Dibdin in the attic of Brown University Library. "Dibdin," he said, "made me a lover of rare and beautiful books; Bradshaw made me a lover of wise and learned librarians." Mr. Bowker added a word of personal reminiscence of Mr. Bradshaw, who was not only a learned librarian, but also a very human and companionable man.

Mr. Willard Austen, of Cornell, president of the New York Association, spoke with deep feeling of "Human bullets," a real story of the siege of Port Arthur, told by Tadayoshi Sakurai, a young Japanese soldier who took part in it.

"Haremlik," by the Greek woman, Demetra Vaka, was pleasantly introduced by Miss Mary L. Davis, of the Troy Public Library. She said: "It is too limited in scope to have great weight as a sociological document, but it is very interesting as confirming the impression, received from Loti's "Disenchanted" of the mental activity of the Turkish women, their beauty, charm, and many accomplishments."

Mr. Frederick C. Hicks, of Brooklyn, made a stirring appeal to study the great eastern question from the point of view of Russo-Japanese rivalry as shown in B. L. Putnam Weale's "Coming struggle in Eastern Asia."

Miss Mary L. Sutliff, formerly of the New York State Library School, now of the California State Library, read a charming sketch by Miss C. M. Hewins, of one of her favorite novels, "Villette." Miss Hewins traced the likeness between various characters in the book to members of the Brontë family and to their friends. George Murray Smith, e.g., of Smith Elder & Co., was the original of John Graham Bretton.

It seemed evident that most of the audience had as children made the acquaintance of the Peterkin family, and their friend, the lady from Philadelphia, for after Miss Annie C. Moore's speech on the "Peterkin papers" they repudiated the time-limit and enthusiastically called Miss Moore back for further choice selections from this inimitable book. "Justice and liberty," by G. Lowes Dickinson, was discussed by Mr. Frank L. Tolman,

reference librarian at the New York State Library. Mr. Tolman likened his author to Matthew Arnold "in his choice of large philosophical and ethical problems, for his conception of literature as the criticism of life and for his purity of style." Mr. Tolman's introduction of the book must have inclined his audience to investigate the Dickinson socialism, which is set forth in the form of a dialogue between a Cambridge philosopher, an aristocrat and a hard-hearted business man.

Miss Zaidee M. Brown, state organizer, spoke on Herbert G. Wells' "Modern Utopia," which she considers a thought-compelling book, thoroughly modern in allowing power of initiative and individual liberty, even private ownership of property, and purely original in the conception of the ruling class, a "self-elected nobility," pledged against luxury and fulfilling high ideals.

"Man and the earth," by Nathaniel S. Shaler, was effectively treated by Dr. A. E. Bostwick. He knows no other book which more briefly and vividly sets forth the criminal waste of natural resources—food, soil, fuel, power, and which enjoins so powerfully the moral obligation of this generation to stop the waste and to conserve resources for the sake of future civilization.

Dr. E. C. Richardson, of Princeton University, said that there were few books in modern literature which he had so read and enjoyed as Carmichael's "History of William Walshe." He classified it as "fiction in the form of biography and with a strong bibliographical flavor." "Walshe is a modernized St. Francis, astonishingly and cleverly the real thing, but one does not have to be religious in order to enjoy the portrait; he need only have that sense of harmony in human character and experience which we call literary taste or feeling."

The closing number was a graceful tribute to Pater's "Marius the epicurean," by Miss Plummer.

During the program Mrs. Fairchild spoke briefly on the following books: "Carla Wenckebach, pioneer," by Margarethe Müller, an appropriate companion piece to the "Life of Alice Freeman Palmer," by her husband.

Thomas Janvier's "Embassy to Provence," a book of the same type and spirit as Mistral's *Life*.

Prof. George H. Palmer's "Self-cultivation in English." It gives one an impulse to speak and write better English and it tells how.

Dr. T. M. Prudden's "Dust and its dangers." Though not recent, it is not superseded because it gives so simply the scientific reason for keeping a house and its belongings clean.

Dr. E. P. Felt's "Control of household insects." A useful pamphlet to be had free from the State Museum at Albany.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

## LIBRARIES IN RURAL COMMUNITIES\*

THE work of this committee, as it has understood it, has been to collect facts about reading and libraries in the small villages and open country, and if possible to offer to this association a tentative plan for improving present conditions. The committee has not attempted to study the character and extent of the reading at present; nor, except briefly, the kind of reading most desirable, as this would be too wide a field. It has in the main limited its work to the ready supply of reading matter by libraries.

Of the eight million or more people in New York, about one and a half million (1,481,390) live in unincorporated villages and the open country. If we add to these the people living in (325) incorporated villages of less than two thousand inhabitants, for such villages may be called rural, we find that about one and three-fourths million people live in the open country and the smaller villages. As to the libraries available to these people, one cannot give exact figures. In most villages there is some sort of library for general use—such as a Sunday-school, subscription, or school library. These, however, do not fill the place of a public library. They do not offer the same service, nor are they used so widely. Often they are used very little. Again, it is difficult to give figures as to libraries used by the rural population, because one cannot tell how many people use libraries in larger places. Some libraries in this state are doing excellent work of this sort, but probably there is not enough of such use to affect materially the figures for the whole state. In general we may say that where there is no good public library, the supply of reading is much too small.

Coming then to the public libraries in these smaller villages and the open country, we can give more definite information. For the one and a half million people living outside incorporated places there are about eighty-five public libraries known to us. There are some other libraries that are free, but probably the whole number would be less than two hundred. Most of these libraries have less than two thousand volumes. They probably reach less than fifty thousand people. Not all of them are active and efficient. If these libraries reach fifty thousand people, they reach but one-thirtieth of the one and a half millions we are considering.

In the smaller incorporated villages the case is somewhat better. We have considered only villages of less than two thousand inhabitants. There are 325 of these, and not quite one-third have public libraries. Natur-

\*Abridged report of the Committee on Libraries in rural communities appointed by the New York Library Association; read at Lake George, Sept. 24, 1909.

ally these are mainly in the larger villages. There are probably three thousand or more little villages and hamlets in the state. In these villages, incorporated and unincorporated, we find about 184 public libraries.

With libraries for less than one-thirtieth of the million and a half outside incorporated places, and libraries for less than one-third of those in smaller incorporated villages, it is plain that most of the people in the country are still unsupplied, and without the pleasure and stimulus that such libraries might give them. One reason for this state of things is that the large sums given for library purposes usually go to large villages or cities. No philanthropist has left a sum to be distributed among struggling libraries in the country regions. Yet this rural population numbers about one-fifth of the people of the whole state, and their prosperity and intelligence are important to all, for the cities draw their life from the country.

Having shown the lack of public libraries in rural regions, we turn to travelling libraries, to see how far these supply the need. The use of travelling libraries sent out by the state for general reading has been amazingly small, considering that these libraries have been offered for the last 16 years. Libraries for study clubs have been used much more. The state sends out the general libraries either in fixed groups or in groups made up to suit the tastes of the borrowers. They are loaned to groups of tax-payers; to public libraries; to schools; to charitable organizations; to other organizations, such as Granges, Sunday-schools, etc.; and, in smaller groups, to individuals. The libraries that are most general in their use, that are most like public libraries, are those loaned to groups of tax-payers. In the three years ending Oct. 1, 1908, 67 such libraries were sent out. The number of communities, or groups of tax-payers, served by these 67 libraries is not readily available, but it probably is not over 30. The libraries sent to schools and other organizations serve to some extent for general reading by the whole community. Perhaps one-fourth of those sent to schools are so used and one-half of those sent to other organizations. In the same three years that the state sent 67 libraries to tax-payers, it sent out 266 to schools, of which perhaps 67 were for general use; and it sent 166 to other organizations, of which perhaps 84 were for general use. That is, of these 499 libraries sent out in three years, the 67 sent to tax-payers were almost certainly for general use in places without public libraries; and perhaps 151 of those sent to schools and organizations were so used. This makes a little over 200 so used in three years, and these served possibly 100 stations. These libraries are about 10 per cent. of the total number loaned by the state.

It may be of interest to compare New York with other states in its use of travelling li-

braries, especially for general reading, though of course we realize that conditions vary in different states. From the figures in the 1908 yearbook of the League of Library Commissions we have prepared a comparative table giving the total number of libraries circulated in 14 states in one year, and the number and per cent. of the total circulated to different classes of borrowers. The classes of libraries considered are those loaned to (a) groups of tax-payers, which almost always are used by the general public; (b) schools and miscellaneous organizations, which may or may not be used by the general public; (c) public libraries; and (d) charitable institutions and study clubs, where the use is plainly not general. Taking the first group, the tax-payers, where the library is almost always for general use in a place without a public library, we find that two states, California and Kansas, limit their work to this kind of library, and circulated in one year, in California, 667 libraries, and in Kansas 804. In three other states, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Pennsylvania, more than one-half (from 52 per cent. to 79 per cent.) of the libraries were of this class. These five states together sent out in one year 2087 libraries of this class, these being over 74 per cent. of all libraries sent out by them. If we add to the libraries loaned to tax-payers the others of public or semi-public nature, *i.e.*, those loaned to schools, libraries and other organizations, we find that in twelve of the fourteen states considered over 80 per cent. of the libraries loaned are of this sort, that serve more or less for general reading. The other two states are Iowa and New York. In Iowa 64 per cent. of the libraries are of this sort, and in New York only 36½ per cent. That is, in all the other states circulating travelling libraries extensively the bulk of the work is with libraries for more or less general use. In New York the bulk of the libraries, 61 per cent. to be exact, are used by study clubs. But we believe, judging from the experience of these other states, that the use of general travelling libraries could be greatly increased, and that this would help solve the problem we are considering.

It may be said that the general travelling libraries are not so widely used in New York because here the direct grant of money by the state has caused the establishment of public libraries in small villages which otherwise would use travelling libraries only. But we have already shown that of the 72 incorporated villages of less than 500 inhabitants, only 15 per cent. have public libraries; and that among the million and a half people living in unincorporated villages and the open country there are only about 85 libraries, all small, and serving on a generous estimate less than one-thirtieth of this population. The offer of state money undoubtedly greatly aids the establishment of small village libraries, and many such have been established and are



doing excellent work. But when we compare the number of people they serve with the great rural population, we can safely say that probably 90 per cent. of these people have not access to public libraries and do not use the travelling libraries offered.

The question now arises as to whether the people in rural regions would make much use of library privileges if they had them. While it is true that one often encounters great inertia and indifference in starting a library in any place, small or large, we may say that when the library is established the people in small villages and in the country use it more than do people in larger places. While circulation statistics do not well represent a library's work, as they tell nothing of the character of the reading, they give some idea of the use made of a library. We have accordingly studied the circulation of the public libraries of 55 villages having less than 500 inhabitants each. These libraries vary from about 500 to 3000 volumes, but most of them contain less than 2000 volumes. The population of the 55 villages is nearly 17,000, and the annual circulation is over 120,000 (121,721), averaging over seven books a year to each inhabitant. This is more than three times the average circulation of the state, as a whole, including all kinds of libraries reporting to the Education Department (16,575,161 in 1906; about two books per capita).

So much for present conditions; now for ways of bettering them. The field workers sent out by the state are of course doing what they can, but the great number of people to be reached, as shown by the figures already given, make it plain that it will be a long time before one inspector and two organizers, who must spend most of their energies on libraries already established, can have much effect on our one and three-fourths million rural population. The work must be subdivided, and more local help enlisted. Some of the librarians of the state are now giving time and strength, as they can spare them from the duties of their own libraries, to this work for small communities in their neighborhood; and such work has brought good results. Were more people enlisted, and did they work together according to some plan, far greater results might follow. It is the hope of this committee that some plan for such subdivision and co-operation may be worked out and started at this meeting. Any such plan must call for volunteer workers of devotion and public spirit. The trouble will be that workers of this stamp are usually spending all their energies on their home communities, and find so much to do there that they hesitate before undertaking new burdens.

We offer then the following plan as a possible way of beginning work, asking for the frankest criticism and discussion. For the unit of work we propose the county. A county is small enough to give some hope of

reaching all the communities, in time; and has moreover the great advantage that there are various kinds of gatherings, to be mentioned later, where the whole county is represented. We propose that volunteers be called for from the librarians of the state or from any whom they can interest, each volunteer to work as he is able in his county, along lines to be suggested later in this report. We suggest that the general oversight of this work be in the hands of a special committee appointed by the executive committee of this association. The work in each county should be under the direction of one head worker appointed by the committee. The state associations and the local library associations should support this work, and their meetings may serve for exchange of experience and plans. The columns of the quarterly *New York Libraries* may also be used for such exchange, and for enlisting new volunteers.

A list of all the villages and hamlets in a county, of all the school teachers, of the officers of all the Granges, and so on, may be obtained from various printed lists known to us.

Now let us consider what is open to such volunteers—work that will be effective and yet that will not require more time and strength than volunteer help can give. So far as possible, we should make use of organizations and institutions already existing. Many of these, such as the women's clubs, are already interested in the library movement, and are working to aid it. Others might be enlisted. When possible, village and city libraries should be free to the farmers living in the neighborhood, and the librarian should make constant effort to secure and hold country readers. If the trustees or general public sentiment oppose, because the tax support of the library comes from the village or city, the effort should be made to bring about a more liberal policy. A library may send books from its own collection, travelling libraries, to neighboring villages or school districts. Such travelling libraries sent from a central library that is near might be more satisfactory than those sent out by the state. The books could be changed oftener, and the main librarian could have more personal knowledge of the wishes and needs of each station.

At present, however, there are hardly enough public libraries to care for the rural communities, even were they all willing to undertake such work. The establishment of new libraries in places large enough to support them should of course be encouraged by the county workers. But this is a work of time, and for present needs we turn to the state travelling libraries. We have already shown how little these are used for general reading, and how much more widely they might be used, judging from the experience of other states. The facts about these libraries should be made known as widely as possible.



Some of the general gatherings where library work could be presented and travelling libraries advertised, are teachers' and farmers' institutes, county fairs, county conventions of Sunday-schools and young people's societies, meetings of the Grange, meetings of women's clubs, and so on. Sometimes it would be possible to arrange for a speaker on library work. The best results would follow if a county worker were present, and the place and hour when he would talk with any one interested were given. The state would gladly send circulars for distribution, and for any larger gathering would send for exhibition a sample travelling library, free of expense. Brief descriptive talks on some of the books would often help to rouse interest.

Of the agencies mentioned, the school and the church between them touch nearly every rural home and from their nature both are likely to co-operate with library work. The schools are easily reached through the teachers' institutes. The teachers of the district schools could do much to procure libraries and encourage their use in the open country. Some of the state institute conductors have agreed to give an announcement concerning these libraries at all institutes this year. By writing to the local school commission or to the conductor of the institute, the county worker who could provide a good speaker might secure place on the program. It was the opinion of several experienced workers with whom the committee talked that a simple announcement of the travelling library and general truths on the value of reading should be supplemented in the teachers' institutes, and perhaps elsewhere, by brief descriptive talks about certain books. In working with the other organization mentioned, the church, the county worker should let the minister and church workers know that libraries will be sent to Sunday-schools, mission study classes, and so on; and that the selection will be made to suit their wishes. If possible the matter should be presented at the state meetings of the various denominations.

We can give only a few words to the kind of reading to be supplied by all this work. It should be popular and such as will be enjoyed by more than the occasional reader. It is of no use to furnish books, however good, if they remain on the shelves. In non-fiction especially the treatment should be simple and interesting, and the book *readable* as well as authoritative. There should be a large proportion of fiction and of juvenile books, for these are the most popular classes.

In concluding our report, we recommend that the Executive committee of the Association appoint a committee to enlist workers for each county to encourage the use of libraries, and that this committee have general oversight of the work.

## CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY APPOINTMENT

THE situation in the Chicago Public Library has for the past few months been one of the prominent matters of interest to the library profession. After Mr. Hild's retirement on April 26 from the librarianship the question of his successor became a matter for the serious consideration of the library's board of trustees, the city administration and of the library profession in general. Owing to the Public Library of Chicago's connection with civil service it was feared that the application of this system of examination to the choice of librarian would interfere with the appointment of the right man for the place. The delicacy of the situation was evident, and with no infringements on the legal requirements in the matter and no violation of civil service rules, the civil service commission of Chicago provided for a judicious appointment by its creation of an examining committee of library experts to pass upon the examination papers of the candidates. The committee held a meeting at Lake George, N. Y., following the close of the New York Library Association meeting. The papers of the applicants were there considered. There were 19 candidates for the position. The names and ratings of the candidates, according to agreement, were not made public, and on Oct. 1 the committee reported the name of Mr. Henry E. Legler as selected appointee. The report of the examining committee to the Chicago Civil Service, which was drawn up to accompany the ratings of candidates, is given herewith:

SEPT. 29, 1909.

To the Civil Service Commission of the City of Chicago.

GENTLEMEN: The undersigned, a board appointed by you to consider and rate the candidates for the librarianship of the Chicago Public Library, respectfully report as follows:

1. We submit the ratings requested, but
2. We call attention to the peculiarity of the conditions in these respects:
  - (a) The purpose of the examination was not to create a list of eligibles for a *class* of positions. It was to fill one particular position.
  - (b) The candidate rated highest will necessarily receive the appointment.
  - (c) The position is an executive one — the highest in the general administration of a large institution. While involving, as a desideratum, a knowledge of technique, it is therefore itself aloof from the personal conduct of technical details. Success in it will concededly rest more upon general character, education and experience than upon the qualities which can be tested by a written examination. But
  - (d) Your commission announced that the essays accompanying the applications would be "given equal weight" (in the marking) with the other qualifications — of character, education and experience.
  - (e) To justify any substantial weight to such essays as part of such a test, it was important that the applicants should be placed upon an equal basis of opportunity and of understanding. Specifications were requisite. But beyond the statement that the essay was to embody a "professional judgment of the proper administration of the library," the announcement contained no specification regarding it, nor any limitation — not even as to its length.

3. To ensure conformity to the announcement we read and rated the essays first, without inspecting the applications or being acquainted with the list of applicants, or, therefore, with the identity of the writers.

(a) Agreement upon these ratings was not difficult and was unanimous. On the other hand,

(b) The consideration of the other elements (character, education, experience) was decidedly difficult, involving not merely the relative weights to be given different types of experience, but a necessarily varying judgment among the examiners of the personal fitness of candidates known to them in different degrees and in different relations.

As to all the ratings under this head, save the first three, however, the agreement was also unanimous. As to these three it was unanimous except as to their relative order among themselves. As to this order, and therefore as to the final ratings (among these three candidates) which it determines, agreement was difficult, the choice itself being difficult; and from the ratings given one member of our board strongly dissents, signing this report only for the purpose of making it unanimous.

4. The difficulty of this choice, and the fact of this dissent indicate what the board notes for your general attention: That an estimate based upon the record—the essays—submitted combined with the general judgment of its four members upon the elements of character, education and experience, reveals none among the nineteen candidates as clearly pre-eminent for this position; nor as giving complete assurance of success in it in comparison with other persons who might be available. This will indeed appear from the numerical ratings.

Very respectfully,  
HERBERT PUTNAM, *Chairman*;  
CLEMENT WALKER ANDREWS,  
FRANK P. HILL,  
HOWARD O. SPROGLE,  
*Board of Examiners.*

The librarianship of the Chicago Public Library prophesies a great opportunity for far-reaching work and creation of vital influences in the course of library progress, and it is with earnest satisfaction that the choice of Mr. Legler is recorded. In his little more than five years' connection with library work Mr. Legler's remarkable ability and strong personality have brought him into the foremost ranks of the profession. As secretary of the Wisconsin Library Commission, Mr. Legler has carried out the highest ideals of commission work, and his effectiveness has reached beyond the limits of specific locality in his service to the American Library Association as a member of its council, as chairman of its publishing board and on various committees. He was born in Palermo, Italy, in 1861, and was educated in Switzerland and the United States. He began his career in newspaper work, and was with the Milwaukee *Sentinel* until, in 1889, when he was elected a member of the Wisconsin state legislature.

He was made a member of the Milwaukee school board in 1890, and held this position until his entrance into library work, and during his connection with the schools the remarkably close and effective co-operation between schools and the public library existing in Milwaukee was attained. Mr. Legler is the author of monographs on various subjects, chiefly of historical, bibliographical and antiquarian interest.

## ROUND TABLE MEETINGS

(Reprinted from *New York Libraries*, July.)

ANOTHER series of round table meetings has been brought to a close by the institute committee of the New York Library Association. In point of interest and attendance it has been the most successful series of such meetings that this committee has ever conducted. In general the plan followed was identical with that of the last three years, though some changes were made in the grouping of the libraries and in the list of topics submitted for selection. Thirty-one meetings were held, the places for the meetings being so distributed as to bring every library in the state within easy reach of some meeting. As in former years, the plan was to omit Greater New York from the program, as it was assumed that the libraries of this district were hardly in need of any aid of this kind from the State Association. But for the group of libraries on the western end of Long Island it was found advisable to merge the round table meeting with a meeting of the Long Island Library Association at Jamaica, so the statistics of the year are in some degree affected by this union meeting. In point of attendance, naturally, this meeting at Jamaica was the largest of the series, more than a hundred persons being present; but in the number of libraries represented it was surpassed by at least eight other meetings. The largest representation of libraries was at the Syracuse meeting, where delegates from 16 libraries were present, and at Buffalo, where 14 libraries were represented. Other meetings especially well attended were those at Utica, Watertown, Rhinecliff, Geneva, Middletown, Bronxville, Mayville and Jordanville, at each of which 10 or more libraries were represented. At Nyack every library in the group, with the exception of one school library, was represented. The smallest representation of libraries was at Cambridge, Newark, Mattituck and Bridgehampton, due partly to the smallness of the districts and partly to unfavorable weather conditions.

Twenty-four of the meetings were conducted in whole or in part by officers of the State Division of Educational Extension—three by Mr. Eastman, five by Mr. Wynkoop and eight each by Miss Phelps and Miss Brown. At three of the meetings Mr. Peck, of Gloversville, represented the State committee, at two Miss Rathbone, of Pratt Institute Library School, presided, at two Miss Smith, of the Utica Public Library, and at two others Miss Bacon, of the State Library School. At Buffalo the meeting was entirely in charge of the librarian and staff of the Buffalo Public Library, including Miss Chandler, of the State committee.

Of the topics suggested by the State com-

mittee as a basis for the discussions, by far the most popular was that of Recent books. At all the meetings but five, this was one of the topics chosen by the visiting librarians. Other topics chosen, in the order of their popularity were: Books for boys and girls, discussed at 16 meetings; The librarian's reading, at 13 meetings; How to select books, at 12 meetings; Inexpensive reference material, at 10 meetings; Where to buy books and how, at 7 meetings. Every one of these topics, it will be noted, had to do directly with books and not at all with library machinery or technic, showing how strongly and unanimously the librarians of the state are emphasizing the book side of the library problem. Topics suggested by the committee but which failed to be selected for discussion at a single meeting were: Budget for expenses, Library statistics, Hours of opening, and Reserving books.

The following table shows the place, date, number of libraries represented, the number of persons in attendance and the name of the conductor for each meeting:

*New York library round table meetings 1909*

PLACE	DATE	LIBRARIES	PERSONS	CONDUCTORS
Troy.....	May 8	9	24	Miss C. Bacon
Cambridge....	" 26	4	17	W. R. Eastman
Lake George....	" 28	5	14	Miss Z. M. Brown
Westport.....	" 19	6	13	W. R. Eastman
Plattsburg.....	" 26	5	6	Miss Z. M. Brown
Fultonville....	" 23	7	26	Miss B. S. Smith and A. L. Peck
Jordanville....	" 14	10	38	Miss B. S. Smith and A. L. Peck
Utica.....	June 4	13	34	Miss Z. M. Brown and W. R. Eastman
Watertown....	May 12	10	36	Miss A. R. Phelps
Syracuse.....	" 20	16	47	"
Newark.....	" 27	4	8	"
Geneva.....	" 21	12	21	Miss Z. M. Brown
Spencerport...	" 26	5	13	Miss A. R. Phelps
Le Roy.....	" 28	9	37	"
Buffalo.....	" 22	14	29	Miss E. M. Chandler and W. L. Brown
Binghamton...	" 19	8	24	W. F. Seward and Miss A. R. Phelps
Cortland.....	" 15	8	24	Miss A. R. Phelps
Ithaca.....	" 22	8	19	"
Corning.....	" 7	6	8	Miss Z. M. Brown
Hornell.....	" 12	6	21	"
Belmont.....	" 13	11	28	"
Mayville.....	" 18	11	38	"
Rhinecliff....	" 15	12	23	Miss C. Bacon
Griffin Corners.	" 28	5	11	A. Wynkoop
Newburgh.....	" 21	5	9	A. L. Peck and A. Wynkoop
Middletown....	" 19	12	31	A. Wynkoop
Nyack.....	" 20	9	13	"
Bronxville....	" 14	11	21	"
Jamaica.....	" 20	9	100	H. W. Fison
Mattituck.....	" 29	4	13	Miss J. A. Rathbone
Bridgehampton.	" 26	4	40	"
Total.....	31	255	766	

The following is a summary of statistics showing the development of the state institute or round table work since its inception in 1902:

*Library institute and round table meetings in New York, 1902-9*

Meetings.	Attendance.	
	Libraries.	Persons.
1902.....	8	108 299
1903.....	8	108 317
1904.....	8	80 258
1905.....	8	93 341
1906.....	29	194 402
1907.....	29	213 467
1908.....	30	256 585
1909.....	31	255 766

### WISCONSIN-MINNESOTA LIBRARY MEETING

A JOINT meeting of the Wisconsin and Minnesota Library Associations and the 19th annual meeting of the Wisconsin Library Association were held at Superior and Duluth, Sept. 15-17, with a post-conference excursion to Hibbing, Minn., on Sept. 18, 1909.

The first session of the Wisconsin Library Association was held at the Superior Carnegie Library building, on Wednesday evening, Sept. 15, Mr. Walter M. Smith, president, in the chair. Addresses of welcome were delivered by Mr. Frank R. Crumpton, mayor of Superior, and Mr. C. H. Sunderland, president of the Superior Library Board. The response was given by Mr. Smith, followed by his address as president, the latter being a comprehensive review of modern library conditions with many kindred topics, such as University Extension, the relation of the library to the body politic, etc.

On Thursday morning, Sept. 16, a nominating committee was appointed. Mrs. James Robbins, librarian of the Rice Lake Public Library, opened the discussion of "The problem of the northern library." Mrs. Robbins stated that it was very largely a question of inadequate appropriation to meet the urgent needs. Experience has proved the futility of attempting to run a \$10,000 library building on \$1000 a year, little if anything being left for books after the running expenses are paid. The advisability of supplementing the amount of the city appropriation by grants from surrounding towns was next considered by the speaker, who warmly advocated such a procedure. Next to the element of lack of money as a problem was that of lack of time to do the many things demanded.

Mrs. Harriet P. Sawyer, of the Instructional Department of the Wisconsin Library Commission, followed Mrs. Robbins with some suggestions of ways in which the various problems could be met. Mrs. Sawyer first showed how a small appropriation could be stretched in the purchase of books, for example, by securing inexpensive yet durable editions of the classics, standard and recent fiction. A rental collection of fiction was recommended. The purchase of books from agents was frowned upon, as was the buying of expensive sets, encyclopedias, and the like. Examples were given of great savings by the purchase through well-known second-hand

dealers. Much free material for reading purposes may be secured through the various governmental departments, railroads, etc. It was pointed out that picture bulletins could be borrowed from the Wisconsin Library Commission. Easy methods of mending were described and the necessity of good binding emphasized. As to the hours of the children's room, it was suggested that no books be issued after six o'clock, but that the children coming from poor homes be allowed to read after that hour at the library.

Miss Mary A. Smith, librarian at Eau Claire, followed this talk with an explanation of the work done at Eau Claire with the schools. Four talks of 20 minutes each are given to the eighth grade pupils in each of the public schools, the eighth grade being the highest grade in the grammar school. The first talk has to do with the arrangement and classification, meaning of call numbers, plan of the book-room, shelf-labels, etc. The second talk takes up the use of the reference room in particular. The card catalog is considered on the third day, the author, title and subject cards being written upon the black-board and their uses explained, each pupil being required to make samples of each. Magazines — current and bound — are lastly considered with the use of the various indexes. An hour's work is next required at the library, when the pupil is given practice in hunting for five books, the authors of which are given. This is followed by an exercise in finding from the catalog how many books there are in the library about a certain author; and how many articles on trusts in a certain magazine index.

Mr. Legler, secretary of the Wisconsin Library Commission, opened the discussion of "Adequate appropriations for libraries and how to secure them." Mr. Legler stated that it was pitiful to note with what small appropriations librarians were expected to do a great work. He recognized the viewpoint of the city authorities in deeming appropriations for water-works, school houses, and the like of greater necessity, and insisted that, to overcome this attitude, the librarian should make the work of the library of such value as to commend its cause when appropriations are being considered. Tables of comparison are oftentimes valuable. The library trustees should be made to see their responsibility in this condition. Too often they are willing to accept what is grudgingly given without any protest. The Library board should have its representatives present at the meeting of the Council when the budget is being considered to safeguard the library's interest. The matter of the appropriation should not be left, however, to the last moment. Preliminary work should be done with the councilmen in bringing the needs of the library to their attention.

Miss Stearns, of the Library Commission, spoke of one case where no representative of

the Library board attended the meeting of the Village board when the city budget was being considered. As the result the Village Board, totally at sea as to the amount required, appropriated the nominal sum of \$50 for the library's maintenance, this being, as it happened, the amount of the librarian's salary, leaving nothing for books, heat, light, etc. In another instance, a Library board had accepted \$2500 a year for many years, though needing more than the sum specified. At last the sum of \$4000 was solicited and granted without a dissenting vote. In the preparation of by-laws for library boards, Miss Stearns stated that she had made it a practice for some time past to include in the duties of the Finance committee the responsibility for securing the appropriation for the library's maintenance.

Miss Ethel McCollough, of the Superior Public Library, insisted that one of the best methods for securing an adequate appropriation was to employ assistants that the public would respect, and to see that every serious question asked at the library or by phone was answered. The librarian should make it a point to know the aldermen and the city clerk and to keep them informed of the library's needs.

The first joint session of the Wisconsin and Minnesota Library Associations was held at the Duluth Public Library on Thursday evening, Sept. 16, Mr. Warren Upham, president of the Minnesota Library Association, in the chair. The address on behalf of the American Library Association was given by Mr. Henry E. Legler. Mr. Legler's subject was "American library conditions." In opening Mr. Legler briefly sketched the history of the American Library Association from its beginning in 1876 to the present time, outlining the marvellous progress of the movement. Taking up the expenditures for libraries, the speaker contrasted the \$275,000,000 appropriation for our war and navy departments with the sums appropriated for our libraries, and stated that one battleship cost more than the entire sum given to libraries in any one year. He quoted Dr. Canfield's address on the value of the library in national life, and made a plea for the extension of the usefulness of libraries through the establishment of branches in school houses.

The librarian, the speaker contended, is responsible for much of the criticism concerning the large amount of fiction circulated from libraries through the tables of percentage statistics furnished local newspapers. Several delightful selections were read from so-called fiction which might well be classified elsewhere. In the matter of fiction, a plea was made for the reading of the old standards as opposed to much of the recent type. The prevalence of trashy literature in railroad trains, hotels and newsstands was deplored. The problem of book selection was regarded as the most perplexing of all with



which the modern librarian had to deal. The use of the *A. L. A. Booklist* was urged upon all, there being but few book reviews not possessing a commercial bias.

Upon the conclusion of the address a rising vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Legler by all present.

On Friday morning, Sept. 17, a steamboat excursion was tendered the Wisconsin and Minnesota librarians by the Superior Commercial Club. In the afternoon the second joint session was held at the Superior Public Library. This session was devoted to a "Book symposium." In lieu of the address on "Books of local interest" by Dr. R. G. Thwaites, who was unavoidably absent, a letter was read from Dr. Thwaites by the president, in which it was stated that the average public library is sadly deficient in local history material. Inquiries constantly received by the State Historical Society reveal the fact that the home library does not even possess the published history of its own county, and that the collection of local newspaper files and other obvious material has been neglected.

Before the adjournment of the joint session the following resolution presented by a joint committee was adopted unanimously:

The library associations of the states of Wisconsin and Minnesota, assembled in joint session, hereby resolve—

That the Council of the American Library Association and the League of Library Commissions be requested to consider the advisability of memorializing the Department of Commerce and Labor to the end that the Government shall publish and distribute through the libraries coming into contact with our immigrant population handbooks of American history and government written in the language of the foreign-born peoples and adapted to their needs.

It was also resolved that the holding of joint sessions at intervals of two or three years be commended, the co-operating states being such in addition to Wisconsin and Minnesota as may care to unite with us.

The last evening session was devoted to a round table conducted by Miss Jeannette Drake, library organizer of the Wisconsin Library Commission. The following questions were discussed:

Abridged editions of authors; the question of the book-agent; the names of reliable second-hand dealers; best periodicals for book reviews; best almanac; value of reinforced bindings; attractive editions of standard authors; teachers' privileges; study-club work; library appropriations; reserving books; assistance given debating societies; limiting children to children's rooms.

The report of the Nominating committee was adopted and the secretary instructed to cast the ballot for the following nominees: president, Miss Ethel F. McCollough, Superior; vice-president, Miss Mary A. Smith, La Crosse; secretary, Miss Gabriella Ackley, Watertown; treasurer, Miss Miriam Noyes, Oshkosh.

LUTIE E. STEARNS, *Acting Secretary.*

## American Library Association

### COMMITTEE ON BINDING

The A. L. A. Committee on binding receives frequent complaints that certain books are exceedingly unsatisfactory in the original publishers' binding. As long as present methods of trade binding are followed such cases will be frequent, but librarians can greatly aid the committee in its efforts to get better bindings from the publishers, if they will, in every case where books are unsatisfactory, make a strong protest direct to the publisher. The publishers are bound to take notice of such protests, and if they are frequent, some good must result.

The committee has received from Messrs. Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton samples of children's books bound in a special library binding. The circular accompanying the sample copies gives the following specifications for binding:

(1) The best pigskin is used for the backs and buckram for the sides; or, the backs can be covered in pluviusin, to which the attention of librarians is directed, as being even more durable than leather. Morocco can be used for the backs, if desired, at a slightly increased cost.

(2) In sewing the sheets the sections are linked together by numerous stitches which are quite independent of each other, so that if through rough handling a stitch were to break the others would not be affected. This sewing is a great improvement on the old style.

(3) The possibility of any strain of the cover on the leaves is removed by a patent system of linen joints, also by a French joint on the cover, giving freedom to the hinge.

(4) The first and last sections, being used more than the rest, are oversewn and lined in the center with jaconet.

(5) Tight or loose backs are adopted, according to the quality of the paper.

The books seem to be excellently bound for public library work, and it is to be regretted that among the titles obtainable there are not a larger number used in this country. Librarians who are interested can obtain a list of titles and prices by sending direct either to Henry Frowde or Hodder & Stoughton.

## State Library Commissions

### PENNSYLVANIA FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION

The Pennsylvania Free Library Commission has begun a periodical exchange through which it hopes to be of service to the libraries of the state. Libraries of Pennsylvania are asked to send to the Commission the duplicate magazines which they do not want, which the Commission will pass on to libraries that need them.



## State Library Associations

### IOWA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The meeting of the Northeast District of the Iowa Library Association was held at Iowa Falls, May 25-26. Fifteen libraries and trustees attended the sessions, which consisted of informal discussions.

The Middleast District of the Association met at Vinton, April 20-21. Miss Harriet A. Wood, of Cedar Rapids, president of the Association, gave an address on the ideals and work of the public library. There were 24 library workers in attendance, representing nine libraries.

The Southeast District meeting was held May 18-19. In this district there are 15 counties, three of which — Louisa, Davis and Van Buren — have no public libraries. There was a round-table devoted to librarians' specific duties and problems. Addresses were given by Miss Alice S. Tyler, secretary of the Iowa Library Commission; Miss Harriet A. Wood and Hon. W. E. Blake, trustee of the Burlington Public Library.

The Northwest District meeting was held at Algona, June 1-2. Miss Alice S. Tyler gave an address on the "Educational side of the library," and Mr. Johnson Brigham spoke on "Progressive literature."

The meeting of the Southwest District was held at Shenandoah, June 9. Among the topics discussed were the following:

Best magazines and periodicals for the small library; Book selection and purchase; Binding; The club woman and the library; Work of the free travelling library.

Trustees' sessions, or sessions of especial interest to library trustees, were held at all these meetings. Librarians' salaries received consideration, and at the last mentioned district meeting a resolution was adopted expressing the sense of the meeting that the tax levy for library purposes should be levied to the limit of the law, wherever possible.

### KEYSTONE STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The ninth annual meeting of the Keystone State Library Association will be held on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 29th and 30th, at the Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

The meeting promises to be one of unusual interest.

There will be opportunities for visiting the libraries in the vicinity and the Training School for Children's Librarians.

The librarians and the trustees of the small libraries in the state as well as the large are urged to make an extra effort to be present, as the meeting will be of interest to all.

DAISY MARY SMITH, *Secretary-treasurer*.

### OKLAHOMA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The Oklahoma State Library Association held its second annual meeting at Guthrie, May 20-21. Addresses were presented by

Prof. C. H. Roberts, of Guthrie, on "Reference work with the public school pupils;" by Mrs. Myrtle Jones, on "Travelling libraries;" by Mrs. W. H. Quigley, on "Library essentials;" by Mrs. Anna B. Dodson, on "What does the library mean to the study clubs;" and on "What reading is required by librarians," by J. F. McLucas. At the evening session of May 20, Mr. Purd B. Wright presented an address on "The library and the worker," and a business meeting was held on May 21st.

## Library Schools and Training Classes

### CHAUTAUQUA LIBRARY SCHOOL

The ninth annual session of the Chautauqua Library School opened July 3 and continued till Aug. 14, under the directorship of Melvil Dewey, with Mary E. Downey as resident director, assisted by Sabra W. Vought, Alice E. Sanborn and Annie F. Petty.

Mr. Dewey gave lectures on Qualifications of a librarian; Efficiency; Methods; Time-savers; Classification. Mrs. Elmendorf addressed the school on Things that matter; Book elimination. Marilla W. Freeman visited the school, speaking on The psychological moment. Mrs. Evelyn Snead Barnett, literary editor of the *Louisville Courier-Journal*, gave charming lectures on Developing the short story; Literary plagiarism; Knocking at publishers' doors. Dr. Eliza M. Mosher discussed Health considerations of the library staff.

Aside from the special lectures the course of study included lectures on the following subjects: cataloging, classification, reference, library handwriting, note taking, order routine, accession, author numbers, shelf listing, alphabetizing, bookbinding and mending, bibliography, government documents, loan systems, organization and administration, book selection and buying, building and equipment, work with children, schools and clubs, and library extension. Lectures were followed by practice work, which was carefully revised. Opportunity was given for questions and discussion of problems relating to library experience and for consultation with the instructors.

The Chautauqua and Patterson libraries were used for reference and practical work.

Visits were made to the James Prendergast Library, Art Metal Construction Company, Buffalo Public Library, and Niagara Falls Public Library.

So fine a spirit of faithfulness, enthusiasm and good fellowship prevailed that much was accomplished in the six weeks. Strenuous class work was supplemented by relaxation through the unsurpassed attractions which Chautauqua affords and by occasional social features.

The registration included 24 students, representing the following states: Ohio, 13; New York, 2; and one each from Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.

There were many visiting librarians, trustees and others interested in library work, who attended special lectures and consulted in regard to library matters, making this feature a very important part of the work.

#### DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL

- Olla R. Ayres, Waynesburg, Pa. A.B. Waynesburg College.  
 Minerva Griswold Beckwith, Grand Rapids, Mich. George Washington University, 1908-09.  
 Mabel Eaman, Benton Harbor, Mich. Graduate, Benton Harbor College.  
 Edith Lytle Foster, Williamsburg, O. Western College for Women, 1904-06; University of Wooster, 1907-09; assistant, Library of University of Wooster.  
 Mary Emma Herr, Lancaster, Pa. B.A. Bryn Mawr.  
 Cordelia Brown Hodge, Harrisburg, Pa. Graduate, Moravian Parochial School; assistant Free Library Commission, Harrisburg.  
 Jean Barnes Hoskins, Cleveland, O. Lake Erie College, 1896-97.  
 Sarah Lyon Howell, Philadelphia. Graduate, Friends' Central School, Philadelphia.  
 R. Louise Keller, Philadelphia. Assistant, Mercantile Library, Philadelphia.  
 Grace Jean McIntosh, Jamestown, N. Y. Mt. Holyoke College; assistant, Public Library, Jamestown, N. Y.  
 Marion Dix Mosher, Rochester, N. Y. Ph.B. University of Rochester.  
 Abby Sheldon Price, Lima, O. University of Wooster.  
 Anne Allston Porcher, Lorraine, Va. Winthrop College, Rock Hill, S. C., 1900-04; University of S. C., 1905-06; assistant, Library of Winthrop College; assistant, Library of University of South Carolina.  
 Katherine Brien Rogers, Lovingson, Va. University of Virginia; West Virginia University.  
 Miltanna Rowe, Millersville, Pa. Graduate, State Normal School, West Chester, Pa.; assistant, State Normal School Library, Millersville, Pa.  
 Mary Louise Sayre, Philadelphia. B.A. Woman's College of Baltimore.  
 Effa Adah Shelly, Ionia, Mich. Graduate Ionia High School.  
 Elizabeth M. Short, Ft. Atkinson, Wis. Student, University of Wisconsin; assistant, Public Library, Ft. Atkinson.  
 Edna Stone Stewart, Williamsport, Pa. Assistant, James V. Brown Library, Williamsport, Pa.

Alice Nichols Tyler, Lansford, Pa. State Normal School, Potsdam, N. Y., 1907.  
 Ida Liona Wolf, Columbus, O. Ohio State University.

Ruth Woolman, Cincinnati, O. B.A. University of Cincinnati; assistant, University of Cincinnati Library, 1901-07.

#### NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL

At the annual meeting of the New York State Library School Association at Bretton Woods, particular mention was made of the successful operation of the Student Loan Fund. Two members of the class of 1909 were aided to complete their senior year. The report of the Advisory committee says: "The committee is so firmly convinced of the value of the experiment that it plans, in case the Association is not so well supported by graduates of the school as it ought to be, to obtain the money, if possible, from individuals. Such a course, however, ought not to be necessary, since the loyal support of those who are members together with those who are eligible for membership will surely provide sufficient funds for all the needs of the Association."

The following were elected officers of the Association for the year 1909-10: president, Chalmers Hadley, '07; first vice-president, Miss Mary L. Jones, '92; second vice-president, Herbert S. Hirschberg, '05; secretary-treasurer, Miss Bessie Sargeant Smith, '97; executive committee: Olin S. Davis, '92; Miss Rosamond Joslyn, '08; Miss Fannie Borden, '00; third member of Advisory committee, Edwin H. Anderson, '92.

The 24th regular session of the school will begin Wednesday, Oct. 6.

#### PERSONAL NOTES

Harron, Mrs. Julia S., B. L. S., New York State Library School, 1905, has resigned her position as assistant in book selection and annotation in the New York State Library to become assistant to the editor of the *A. L. A. Booklist* at Madison, Wis.

Johnston, Miss Sara E., New York State Library School, 1908-9, began her duties as cataloger at Purdue University, Sept. 1.

Leonard, Miss Mabel E., B.L.S., New York State Library School, 1906, assistant in the U. S. Department of Agriculture Library, has been given a leave of absence to catalog the library of the Coast Artillery School at Fort Monroe.

Mitchell, Miss S. Louise, New York State Library School, 1903-4, has resigned her position as first assistant in the Broadway Branch of the Cleveland Public Library to become assistant librarian in the School of Education, University of Chicago.

Peters, Miss Orpha M., New York State Library School, 1902-3, has resigned her position as librarian of the Elwood, Ind., Public Library to become assistant librarian of the Public Library at Gary, Ind.

The school began its 24th school year Wednesday, Oct. 6, with the following students enrolled:

## CLASS OF 1910

- Birge, Anna Grant, Madison, Wis., B.A. University of Wisconsin, 1906.  
 Blas, Henrietta Marie, Riverhead, N. Y., B.A. Wellesley College, 1908.  
 Callahan, Lilian Jeanette, Albany, N. Y., Smith College, 1904-06; B.A. Trinity College, 1908.  
 Coffin, Helen, Albany, N. Y., B.A. Cornell University, 1906; assistant, New York State Library, 1907.  
 Colegrove, Mrs. Mabel Eloise, Hamilton, N. Y., Colgate University, 1878-82; B.A. Vassar College, 1882.  
 Cunningham, Jesse, Lincoln, Neb., University of Indiana, 1901-05; B.A. University of Nebraska, 1906; assistant University of Indiana Library, 1901-05; assistant University of Nebraska Library, 1905-07; assistant New York State Library, 1909.  
 Dearborn, James Marshall, Brooklyn, N. Y., Ph.B. Wesleyan University, 1902; Columbia University, 1903-04.  
 Firmin, Kate M., Minneapolis, Minn., B.A. University of Minnesota, 1908; Summer School for Library Training, Minnesota, 1907.  
 Fullerton, Pauline Valentine, New York City, B.A. Smith College, 1905; Adelphi College, 1906-07.  
 George, Lillian Mabelle, Kingston, R. I., B.S. Rhode Island State College, 1899; Summer course in library economy at Amherst College; B.A. University of Illinois, 1904; librarian Rhode Island State College Library, 1899-1909.  
 Gilnack, Anna Belle, Rockville, Ct., B.A. Mt. Holyoke College, 1905; assistant Mt. Holyoke College Library, 1903-04; substitute assistant Maxwell Memorial Library, Rockville, Ct., 1905-08.  
 Hill, Galen Wentworth, Gorham, Me., B.A. Bowdoin College, 1904.  
 Holdridge, Kathreen, Rochester, N. Y., University of Rochester, 1906-07; B.A. Elmira College, 1908.  
 Joeckel, Carleton Bruns, Lake Mills, Wis., University of Wisconsin, 1908.  
 Kaiser, John Boynton, Cleveland, O., B.A. Western Reserve University, 1908; assistant Western Reserve Historical Society Library, 1907-08.  
 Long, Harriet Catherine, Madison, Neb., B.A. University of Nebraska, 1908.  
 Marquand, Fanny Elsie, Mt. Vernon, N. Y., B.A. Wellesley College, 1906; cataloger Mt. Vernon Public Library, 1907-09.  
 Rhodes, Isabella Knox, Niagara Falls, N. Y., B.A. Smith College, 1907; assistant Smith College Library, 1905-07; assistant New York State Library, 1908.  
 Sherwood, Ethel Augusta, White Plains, N. Y., B.A. Wellesley College, 1901.  
 Suter, Martha Winkley, Roxbury, N. Y., B.A. Radcliffe College, 1901.  
 Wakefield, Bertha, Sioux City, Ia., B.A. University of Minnesota, 1901; assistant Sioux City Public Library, 1906-08.  
 Warren, Ruth Evelyn, Townsend, Mass., B.A. Wellesley College, 1908; summer assistant Townsend Public Library, 1908.

## Special

- Lyon, Frances Dimmick, Port Jervis, N. Y., LL.B. Cornell University, 1904.

## CLASS OF 1911

- Allen, Mrs. Ferne Ryan, Troy, N. Y., B.L. University of Wisconsin, 1899.  
 Baker, Mary Neikirk, Westerville, O., B.A. Otterbein University, 1906; assistant Otterbein University Library, 1908-09.  
 Bell, Margaret George, Minneapolis, Minn., B.A. University of Minnesota, 1905.  
 Brown, Helen Dalton, Chicago, Ill., B.A. Bryn Mawr College, 1909.  
 Carter, Sylvester J., Council Bluffs, Ia., B.A. Drake University, 1899.  
 Chamberlayne, Ellen Florence, Pittsford, N. Y., B.P. Syracuse University, 1887; assistant Syracuse University Library, 1885-87.  
 Eliot, Ruth Forbes, New Haven, Ct., B.A. Smith College, 1908.  
 Evans, Magdalen, Madison, Wis., B.A. University of Wisconsin, 1904.  
 Fordice, Frances, Eldorado, Wis., B.A. Ripon College, 1908.  
 Gilbert, Gertrude Martha, Dorset, Vt., University of Vermont, 1905-06; B.A. Smith College, 1909; assistant University of Vermont Library, 1905-06; assistant Smith College Library, 1906-09.  
 Leitch, Harriet Elizabeth, Edgewood Park, Pa., B.A. Smith College, 1906.  
 Miltimore, Louise S., Catskill, N. Y., B.A. Cornell University, 1909.  
 Scranton, Henriette Irene, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., B.A. Vassar College, 1896; Detroit College of Law, 1896-97.  
 Stockham, Rae, Des Moines, Ia., Ph.B. Drake University, 1907; evening librarian Drake University, 1908-09.  
 Stronge, Lulu Allt, Albany, N. Y., B.A. Cornell University, 1909; summer assistant Y. M. A. Library, Albany, N. Y., 1908-09.  
 Tarr, Anna Minerva, Meadville, Pa., Allegheny College, 1909; assistant Allegheny College Library, 1907-09.  
 Topping, Elizabeth Russell, Salem, Ore., B.A. Cornell University, 1906; summer assistant Salem Public Library, 1908-09.  
 Vasbinder, Lida C., Lestershire, N. Y., B.A. Elmira College, 1901.  
 West, Josephine Ray, New York City, B.A. Barnard College, 1909.

## PRATT INSTITUTE SCHOOL OF LIBRARY SCIENCE

The school opened Sept. 13 with a class of 25, including one of last year's class finishing a course cut short by illness.

The registration is as follows:

Adams, Rebecca A., Orange, N. J.  
Akin, Sally M., Cartersville, Ga.  
Bement, Constance, Lansing, Mich.  
Crane, Ethelwyn, Monarch, Mont.  
Davis, Helen M., Indianapolis, Ind.  
Davis, Mildred E., Oshkosh, Wis.  
Dawson, Mary A., Buffalo, N. Y.  
Fullerton, Margaret M., Washington C.H., Ohio.  
Harris, Mildred A., Redlands, Cal.  
Herring, Hollis W., New York City.  
Higley, Florence J., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Lee, Annie L., Steubenville, Ohio.  
Molleson, Susan M., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Rathbun, Katharine de W., Woodbridge, N. J.  
Raymond, Esther, Rochester, N. Y.  
Searls, Florence, Worcester, Mass.  
Sessions, Harriette E., Davenport, Iowa.  
Sleneau, Katharyne G., Port Huron, Mich.  
Stutz, Laura C., Albany, N. Y.  
Taggart, Anne V. C., Grand Rapids, Mich.  
Tappert, Katherine, Davenport, Iowa.  
Townsend, Ruth H., Bolton, Mass.  
Van Horn, Mary E., Wilkes-Barré, Pa.  
Webb, Marian A., Ft. Wayne, Ind.  
Wilcox, Almira R., Albion, N. Y.

There are eight college graduates in the class, six who have had one or more years of college, and twelve who have had some library experience.

The faculty for the year consists of the director and Miss Josephine A. Rathbone and Miss Edith Johnston, instructors, with the usual regular lecturers. The director will undertake full work this year, and Miss Johnston will assume the work carried last year by Miss Elliott.

The class of 1909 is distributed as to positions as follows:

Baldwin, Marguerite, assistant, Tompkins Square Branch, New York Public Library.  
Browne, Ruth E., assistant, Library of University of North Dakota, University, N. D.  
Campbell, Alice C., assistant, State Normal School Library, Geneseo, N. Y.  
Craig, Helen M., assistant, Library of Engineering Societies, New York.  
Gaston, Ethelwyn, cataloger, Library of Princeton University, Princeton, N. J.  
Criggs, Lillian, cataloger, Public Library, St. Louis, Mo.  
Hamlin, Myra L., assistant, Public Library, Bangor, Me.  
Hoyt, Stella R., assistant, Ferguson Library, Stamford, Conn.  
Huestis, Alma, assistant, Children's Museum Library, Brooklyn.  
Leatherman, Minnie, secretary of the North Carolina Library Commission.  
Lucht, Julius, librarian, Public Library, Leavenworth, Kansas.

MacMurchy, Marjorie, cataloger, Library of University of Toronto, Canada.

Noyes, Miriam, librarian, Public Library, Oshkosh, Wis.

Prendergast, Mary E., first assistant, Columbus Branch, New York Public Library.

Simmfons, Ethel, cataloger, Public Library, Minneapolis.

Steele, Katharine D., librarian, Hearst Library, Lead, South Dakota.

Werrey, Edna, assistant, Chatham Square Branch, New York Public Library.

During the summer Miss Barbara J. Brink was substituting in the Public Library of Kingston, N. Y.; Miss Ethelwyn Gaston as indexer for the American Telegraph and Telephone Co., New York; Miss Alma Huestis in the Children's Museum Library, Brooklyn, and Miss Edna M. Werrey in the New York Public Library.

## WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY SCHOOL

Appointments of the class of 1909:

Hazel Louise Brown, assistant, Public Library, Grand Rapids, Mich.  
Cordelia Elizabeth Claflin, assistant, Public Library, Cleveland, O.  
Jennie Maas Flexner, assistant, Circulating Department, Free Public Library, Louisville, Ky.  
Mabel Louise Hines, assistant, Miles Park Branch, Public Library, Cleveland, O.  
Alice Josephine Kozlik, assistant, South Side Branch, Public Library, Cleveland, O.  
Edith Clare Lawrence, cataloger, Oahu College, Honolulu, Hawaii.  
Nora Carroll Levinger, assistant librarian, Public Library, Canton, O.  
Cecelia Lewis, assistant, Circulating Department, Public Library, Buffalo, N. Y.  
Evelyn Maude Lotz, assistant, Cataloging Department, Public Library, Cleveland, O.  
Mrs. Florence Holmes Ridgway, cataloger, Berea College, Berea, Ky.  
Martha Clark Sanborn, assistant, Public Library, Sioux City, Ia.  
Jessie Helen Starr, assistant, Juvenile Department, Public Library, Cleveland, O.  
Elizabeth Kissick Steele, assistant, Lorain Sub-branch, Public Library, Cleveland, O.  
Ellen Gilman Stocker, assistant, P. M. Musser Public Library, Muscatine, Ia.  
Myrtle M. Sweetman, assistant, Public Library, Cleveland, O.

## ALUMNI NOTES

Mrs. Amy S. Hobart, '06, has been transferred from the position of first assistant at the St. Clair Branch of the Cleveland Public Library to the position of head of the Stations Department.

Miss Mabel Delle Jones, '08, has received the appointment of librarian of the Young Men's Christian Association Library in Charlestown, W. Va.

Miss Hortense Foglesong, '05, has resigned



her position as cataloger in the Marietta College Library and expects to spend the winter in study in Boston.

Miss Magdaline Newman, '05, has resigned her position as cataloger in the Dayton Public Library to accept the position in the Marietta College Library, made vacant by the resignation of Miss Foglesong.

Miss Eliza Townsend, '05, has resigned her position of librarian of the Public Library of Manistee, Mich., to become field and reference assistant in the Iowa State Library Commission.

#### WISCONSIN LIBRARY SCHOOL

The closing exercises of the class of 1909 were held on Tuesday evening, June 22. Dr. R. G. Thwaites presided, in the absence of Judge Pereles, chairman of the Library Commission, and introduced the speakers of the evening. Mr. C. W. Andrews, of Chicago, gave the principal address on the subject of "Library co-operation," and Rev. R. H. Edwards, of Madison, spoke of the "Librarian as a social factor in the community." The class gift, a beautiful plaster cast of Guido Reni's *Aurora*, was presented to the school by Miss Julia Robinson, the president of the class. The presentation of diplomas by Mr. Legler followed, and the evening closed with an informal reception.

Miss Lena V. Brownell ('09) took up work as an assistant in the Public Library, Superior, Wis., in July.

Miss Winnie Bucklin ('09) has been appointed librarian at Devil's Lake, North Dakota.

Miss Ruth Knowlton ('09) has been engaged as assistant in the Public Library, Oshkosh, Wis.

Miss Gertrude Husenetter ('09) is substituting in the Racine (Wis.) Public Library.

Miss Winnie V. Foster ('08) has resigned her position as librarian at Mosinee, to take the position of assistant at the Stevenson Public Library, Marinette, Wis.

Miss Marguerite Cunningham ('08) and Mr. Lewis W. Parks were married Aug. 28, 1909, and will be at home in Watertown, Wis., after Jan. 1, 1910.

Miss Anna Dupre Smith ('07), children's librarian of the Madison Public Library, will remain at home the coming year for a rest.

Miss Nellie E. Scholes, summer session ('07), has resigned her position as assistant at Marinette, Wis., to become librarian at Maywood, Ill.

Miss Genevieve Mayberry, Short course ('08), has handed in her resignation as assistant of the Public Library, Oconto, Wis., to take a similar position at the Madison Public Library.

Miss Mary Emogene Hazeltine, preceptor of the Library School, has just returned from an extended tour in Europe. Mrs. Harriet P. Sawyer served as acting-preceptor during her absence.

Miss Ada McCarthy ('07) and Mrs. T. R. Brewitt ('08), members of Miss Hazeltine's party, have returned from their trip abroad. Miss McCarthy takes up her work again at Rhinelander, Wis. Mrs. Brewitt will spend a month at her home in Spokane, Wash., before resuming her duties at Madison.

#### JOINT LIBRARY SCHOOL DINNER AT LAKE GEORGE

Instead of the separate library school dinners which have for several years been a feature of the meetings of the New York Library Association, the graduates and former students of Drexel, Illinois, New York State and Pratt united in holding a joint Library School Dinner at the Sagamore Hotel, Lake George, Thursday, Sept. 24, during the meeting of the New York Library Association. More than 60 were present from the four schools. Mr. James I. Wyer, Jr., director of the New York State Library School, acted as toastmaster. Mrs. S. C. Fairchild and Mr. Willard Austen, president of the New York Library Association, who was present as a representative of the Association, were the principal speakers. Brief remarks were also made by Miss Mary W. Plummer and Miss Frances L. Rathbone for the Pratt Institute Library School; Mr. Adam J. Stohm for the University of Illinois Library School; Miss Frances Hobart for the Drexel Institute Library School, and Miss Isabella M. Cooper and Mr. F. K. Walter for the New York State Library School. Much of the success of the dinner was due to Miss Mary L. Davis and Miss Frances L. Rathbone, who acted as an informal committee of arrangements. FRANK K. WALTER, Vice-director,

New York State Library School.

#### Reviews

A DICKENS DICTIONARY; the characters and scenes of the novels and miscellaneous works alphabetically arranged by Alex. J. Philip. London, Routledge, 1900. xxxix+408 p.

The Dickens dictionary, by Gilbert A. Pierce, with additions by William A. Wheeler, originally published by James R. Osgood & Co., in 1872, has been so long out of print that librarians will welcome the opportunity to secure a new Dickens dictionary. The two works differ very materially in plan. The earlier one consists of brief analyses of the principal characters in each book and tale, the entries being arranged alphabetically under the name of the work analyzed, interlarded with generous illustrative extracts from the tales in question. The new dictionary has all the entries in one alphabet and, in addition to proper names, includes such improper names as "Eddard," the coster's



denkey in "Our mutual friend," the "Pig-faced lady" of "Nicholas Nickleby," and the "Plow an' harrow" of the "Old curiosity shop." From Pierce's dictionary alone it would be quite impossible to locate the porcine faced lady, or to find where "Eddard" brayed.

The value of the new dictionary might have been increased by the addition of more cross-references, and the omissions are all the more noteworthy on the part of Mr. Philip, because he is a librarian and ought to appreciate the value of cross-references. A page is devoted to "shop," but it contains no reference to the "Old curiosity shop." There are a dozen entries under "School" and "Schoolmaster," but not a word of reference under these captions to Mr. Squeers and his notorious school, nor to Dr. Blimber's famous educational hot-house. The thorough student who wants to know all about the various inns pictured by Dickens will find under the word "inn" more than a page of references to the obscure and nameless ones, but no reference to those described by the novelist with more care, such as "The Angel," or "The Bush," "Serjeant's Inn," or either of "The Bull" inns of the "Pickwick papers;" "The Blue Bear" of "Great expectations;" "The Bull's Head" of the "Uncommercial traveler," and "The Cabbage and Shears" of the "Christmas stories" (Dr. Marigold's prescription). So, too, with "public house;" there are half a dozen nameless ones referred to under this entry, but no cross-references to the "Blue Dragon" in "Martin Chuzzlewit," or the "Leather Bottle" in the "Pickwick papers." What Dickens has to say about French inns is practically lost under the entry, "France, The inns of."

Cross-references of the class suggested, which would practically be the same as the "See also" references of the dictionary catalog, would seem to have been more worth while than such redundant entries as those in the following series, selected at random:

"BULL," The Black, At Holborn  
M[artin] C[huzzlewit] xxv  
"BULL," Chambermaid of the M. C. xxv  
"BULL," Head chambermaid of the M. C. xxv  
"BULL," Landlady of the M. C. xxv  
"BULL," Landlord of the M. C. xxv

What is the value of the last four entries? Having located the "Bull" as in chapter xxv of "Martin Chuzzlewit," it was not necessary to enter separately everybody in the inn as if it were a roll call; and while a separate line is given to the landlord here, he was last sight of when the entry "landlord" was made up, although here eight references are given. Despite the faults and inconsistencies of the book, mainly due to the absence of rules in making the entries and to a lack of editorial care, the work ought to prove helpful in the reference department of the average public library. THEODORE W. KOCH.

HAZELTINE, Mary Emogene, ed. Anniversaries and holidays; references and suggestions for picture bulletins. Madison, Wis., Wisconsin Free Library Commission, 1909. 122 p.

The Wisconsin Free Library Commission attains its usual high standard of usefulness in this pamphlet brought out under Miss Hazeltine's efficient editorial direction. The series of articles which appeared in 1900 in the *Wisconsin Library Bulletin* under the title "Suggestions for bulletins for birthdays and anniversaries" is presented here in compact form, revised, enlarged, and brought up to date. There is useful introductory matter containing general suggestions as to reading lists and boards and mounts for bulletins. A list of general reference books follows, notes on sources of illustrative material, and a list of references on picture bulletins and reading lists. A very useful Calendar comes next in order, in which anniversaries, birthdays, etc., are given with full references to illustrative material in portraits, views, and reading matter. The list should prove of practical value to librarians and should offer many helpful suggestions to those interested in children's and school work especially.

LIBRARY ECONOMICS. London, Libraco Limited, 1909. iv+140 p.

Of recent years English librarians have been building up a very respectable library of professional literature. Mr. James Duff Brown, Mr. Ernest A. Savage, and Mr. L. Stanley Jast have vied with one another in covering the field of library administration and technique, and now comes a composite volume which at first glance would seem to be somewhat similar in plan to the one recently announced as in preparation by the Publishing Board of the American Library Association. A further examination of the English book, however, shows it to be quite devoid of anything like a "plan."

This new volume, published without a word of preface or even an introductory note, consists of 37 articles on various phases of library work, written by assistants in English and Scottish public libraries.

Seven of the articles are by women assistants, which shows that the latter are beginning to make themselves felt in the library service of Great Britain. The subjects treated by the women writers are, however, either rather elementary or of a kind on which they would be expected to be better posted than men: "Book labelling," "Book stamping," "How to cut the leaves of a book," "Filing of periodicals," "Preparation of magazines for the tables," "Reserved books," and "Ladies' rooms."

The book suffers mostly from a lack of editorial arrangement and co-ordination of

subjects. The first and twenty-third articles or chapters are on "Card charging and appliances," both by F. C. Cole. They would have been mutually more helpful if printed consecutively or incorporated into one article instead of being separated by such extraneous matter as no. 2, "Binding of part music," by A. J. Hawkes; no. 16, "Bookbinding: orders and checking," and no. 18, "Home binderies," the latter two by H. T. Coutts. Article no. 3, "Obliteration of betting news," shows a problem unknown to American libraries, although we have its counterpart in the handling of the sporting sections of some of our larger dailies and the suppression of the illustrated comic sections of most of our Sunday papers. But should not this article have rubbed shoulders with that by A. Webb on "News-room methods" (no. 33)? Incidentally a better article on the same subject by A. J. Philip, entitled "Blacking out," appeared in the *Library World* for April, 1905, to which no reference is made. The article on "Filing of periodicals" is needlessly separated from one on "Preparation of magazines for the tables" by one on "Committee work." No. 19, "Staff conferences," no. 25, "Staff time sheets," and no. 27, "Relations between the staff and readers," are sufficiently closely related in subject to have warranted a closer juxtaposition.

One looks in vain through the volume for anything on classification and cataloging. The one-page index, containing only 41 references, was apparently made not from the body of the book, but from the table of contents, by inverting the titles of a few of the articles, and alphabetizing these with the titles themselves. The interesting series of biographical notices of "One hundred book collectors, arranged in the chronological order of their decease," is followed by an alphabetical index. It would have been better if this index had been incorporated in the general index to the volume instead of being retained in its original position at the end of the list.

So much for the volume studied by itself. A search through the files of the *Library World* leads to the discovery that the book is nothing more than a reissue of the department of that periodical entitled "Library economics," begun in July, 1907, the type having been held and the matter for the first year separately printed in the volume under consideration. The scope of the department, as outlined in the first instalment, embraces notes and articles on every branch of practical library work, but excludes as a rule questions of mere policy and limits the range to a consideration of the mechanism of processes used in all kinds of libraries. "These notes," said the editor at the outset, "will be collected annually into a separate volume, which will be fully indexed, and if sufficiently supported will be published reg-

ularly as a kind of year book of current library practice." Why was not this preliminary note reprinted with the articles? It would have explained many of the features of the book to which we have called attention.

Notwithstanding these shortcomings, all of which might have been avoided by putting the copy into the hands of a librarian with the editorial instinct, the book will be interesting to American librarians, even though they find but little of novelty in its pages which they can put into practice. It should be instructive as showing the *modus operandi* of the average English public library.

THEODORE W. KOCH.

STATE PUBLICATIONS. A provisional list of the official publications of the several states of the United States from their organization. Compiled under the editorial direction of R. R. Bowker. New York, Office of the Publishers' Weekly, 1908.

The completed volume of Mr. Bowker's State Publications comprises the three parts first published in 1899, 1902, and 1905 (reviewed successively in *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, 25:299; 28:78 and 31:336), and part 4, the Southern States, now first issued. It forms a stout quarto of over 1000 pages. While it is 10 years since the appearance of part 1, the real inception of the work dates back to the "List of state publications" in the "American catalogue," 1884-90, which was continued in the volume for 1890-95. The scope of the work and arrangement of the matter have been sufficiently described in the notices of parts 1, 2 and 3, in this journal. The appearance of the complete work challenges attention from two distinct and very different points of view.

It is a solid achievement in bibliography of a very practical and useful sort. Confessedly but a trial list it nevertheless furnishes the completest existing schedule and description of the documents in its field, with the possible exception of the lists of one or two states which have been issued since the appearance of Mr. Bowker's checklist and under local auspices. From this point of view, bearing in mind the years that have gone to its preparation, the untiring patience in the face of great discouragements, the almost unbelievable obstacles to satisfactory co-operation with state officers, and the initial prospect of certain financial loss which has been in the outcome even greater than was first expected, the result prompts a lively gratitude for such a devotion to bibliographic work for the work's sake, and an admiration for such unflagging persistence shown and such thoroughly good work done in following a losing game. Viewed in this way the work is noteworthy, whatever its faults, and however its lasting usefulness may have been diminished by subsequent work. There have

been monumental works in bibliography conceived with slight regard for large usefulness, works upon which a lifetime has been spent in collecting and printing the literature of a very minor topic. There has been no such error of judgment in this case. The bibliography of state publications when Mr. Bowker began its development was almost *nil*. The activity of state presses, even then considerable, has increased remarkably in the past 20 years, and the value of the product as reference material in social, administrative and scientific subjects, has fairly kept pace with the increased output. This rapid increase of useful material has abundantly justified the selection of such a subject for bibliographic treatment. It is further justified by the fact that essays in the bibliography of state publications are usually local, fugitive and without uniformity of plan or method. They are so unsatisfactory as bibliographic tools as to make their collection in one volume a matter for congratulation.

This brings us to the second point of view from which this work must be considered: its permanent value, in the light of present supplementary material and, so far as can be forecast, its likelihood of continued usefulness. The most notable effort in this field is Miss Hasse's monumental "Index to economic material in documents of the states of the United States," which is the only important title covering any considerable portion of the same ground. The volume under review includes *all* state publications. Miss Hasse omits constitutions, laws, legislative journals and court reports, a large and exceedingly important group. The present work is first of all a checklist. Miss Hasse's volumes are indexes; and while, incidentally, through listing the volumes indexed, they serve as a checklist, they do not have in mind the completeness for this purpose which is given to the entries in Bowker. Again, Miss Hasse's volumes index only economic material. It is true the word is used in a broad sense, and covers by far the more important part of published state documents, yet while recognizing the valuable analytic work and wealth of detail in Miss Hasse's indexes, there certainly is a large field untouched. Through this field Mr. Bowker's volume has beaten not one but many paths. While it is not an index, nevertheless its arrangement makes it possible to use it with considerable effectiveness from the subject side and gives it, therefore, much of the value of a subject index.

State Publications is so well done that it is, with possibly one or two exceptions, still a more comprehensive list of the publications of every state than exists in any other form; probably a more nearly complete list of state documents than would be represented by a catalog of the best collection anywhere to be found. It seems reasonable, therefore, to predict for the work under review a long

continued usefulness for the period covered (roughly to the close of the 19th century), not only for its own material but as a supplement to any existing works in the same field. The book and its editor alike owe much to the patient and faithful work of Miss Helen E. Haines, Miss Frances B. Hawley and especially Mr. W. N. Seaver, who have successively borne the brunt of the work of compilation. J. I. WYER, JR.

## Library Economy and History

### PERIODICALS

*Library Assistant*, August-September, contains two interesting articles: "Libraries in the rural districts," by Harry Farr; and "The function of a central library and the problem of branches," by Arthur J. Hawkes, continued from previous issue. The following quotation from the former article in relation to rural libraries in England is of interest:

"It is evident that the provision of libraries for the rural districts has barely begun. The average villager has no conception of the meaning of a library and no means of getting books if he had. In this respect he would be better off in New South Wales or Canada, where in the most remote districts admirably selected travelling libraries may be easily had. But here in the mother country he is cut off from nearly every source of enlightenment. If he is intelligent and sagacious he betakes himself to the town, and will continue to do so until village life is made more tolerable. At the last census the number of farm labourers had everywhere diminished, and in each of the purely agricultural counties this diminution amounted to thousands. In many districts the withdrawal of the more intelligent to the towns has left the village populations ignorant and degraded and the civilizing influence of books in village life is everywhere badly needed. Well selected travelling libraries such as the McGill University Library, Montreal (on behalf of the government), provides for Canadians must be insisted on as the minimum which every county council should provide. Reading rooms, without religious, political, or social bias, where the villagers can read the best newspapers and magazines must everywhere be provided. At county centres buildings should be erected, where technical instruction can be given, libraries organized and books distributed. In many counties reference libraries ought to be established, containing at least liberal supplies of books on the various industries of the particular counties and serving as depositories for historical documents of all kinds. The more extensive general reference works could be acquired gradually, and an institution built up which would benefit the intellectual and industrial life of the whole county.

*Library Association Record*, August, contains an article entitled "The library of University College, London," by R. W. Chambers. The September number contains "Librarianship and literature," by Ernest A. Savage, an inspiring article that should serve to widen the perspective of the librarian's viewpoint, and shows the need of overcoming the set and stereotyped "library philosophy," which sets limitations upon the more human aspects of our profession.

*Library World*, August, contains a continued article, "The subject classification; criticisms, revisions and adjustments," by James Duff Brown. "The subject classification" appeared in 1906, and was reviewed in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* for December, 1906. "The representation of science and technology in public libraries," by Ernest A. Savage; "Holiday literature and picture exhibitions," by John Warner, and an interesting circular giving information on the "International Congress of Archivists and Librarians, Brussels, 1910," complete the number. The index for v. 11 accompanies the number.

The September number contains "The subject classification, criticisms, revisions and adjustments," pt. 2, by James Duff Brown.

*La Bibliothéca*, April-May, contains "A bibliographical visit to the section of music at the Royal University Library, Upsala," by Rafael Mitjana, an illustrated article in Spanish describing the more interesting items of the collection which was gotten together chiefly during the Thirty years' war, especially from Braunsberg and Mainz; an illustrated article on "The mss. of Galileo and his school in the National Central Library, Florence," by L. Andreani, is also contained in this number.

*Revue des Bibliothèques et Archives de Belgique*, January-February, contains "The Italian regulations for the loan of books and mss. from public libraries," by J. Van den Gheyn; "The State dépôt for archives, Namur—Accessions, 1907-8," by F. Courtois; and "The management of a central public library," by C. Sury.

*De Boekzaal*, July 30, contains a facsimile of a holograph page of Heine's "Florentinische Nächte," owned by the royal library, with an article by W. G. C. Byvanck on the time and place of composition; an account of the colonial library at Paramaribo by Fred. Oudschans Dentz, a bibliography of children's magazines (in Dutch) by Marie Hildebrandt, a description of a formaline disinfecting machine by Dr. Th. Stoop, comment by S. H. de Roos on the exhibition of Italian colored wood engravings in the royal print galleries; the editorial columns are given up to a comparison of public libraries in English and Dutch colonies (to the credit of the former nation), and an appreciation of the A. L. A.

The last page of the number advertises the Dutch translation by Mrs. J. L. Maris-Fransen v. d. Putte of Miss Palmgren's work on American libraries.

#### AMERICAN LIBRARIES

*Bangor (Me.) P. L.* (26th rpt.—year 1908.) Added 2457; total 66,639. Issued, home use 93,209; reading room use 14,092. Registration 5234.

"The library has received from the United States government, Maine State Library, institutions, societies and individuals 757 bound volumes and 5137 periodicals and pamphlets."

*Bar Harbor, Me.* It is stated that Mrs. Morris K. Jesup, widow of the late president of the Peary Arctic Club, has purchased a lot of land on Mount Desert Street on which to build a library in memory of her husband.

*Binghamton (N. Y.) P. L.* A leaflet of the Library Reading Club has been recently issued covering for the second year (1909-1910) of the course on American history the subject of the Dutch in New York.

*Cleveland (O.) Western Reserve Historical Society L.* Announcement was made recently that the historical and genealogical library of the Western Reserve Historical Society will give access to its collection to those not members of the Society upon payment of 10 cents as a fee. An extensive collection of books on Arctic exploration is also on exhibition for the general public at the Western Reserve Historical Society. There are over 200 titles in the collection. Most of the books were presented to the Society by the late Judge Henry C. White.

*Dubuque, Ia. Carnegie-Steut F. P. L.* (6th rpt.—year 1908.) Added 1611 (861 by purchase, 532 by gift, 218 by binding); total 26,012. Issued, home use 112,381. New membership 1150; total 11,760. Receipts \$9246.21; expenses \$7967.52 (salaries \$3905, books \$1079.78; binding \$556.91, fuel \$669.32, light \$568.50).

The circulation for the year is the largest in the record of the library. "Every effort is made to call attention to the resources of the library. The plan of advertising the new books and putting them all on the shelves for circulation at a certain hour has been found very satisfactory. In this way every reader has the same opportunity of securing the 'new books' which are always in demand."

In the work of cataloging, the printed cards of the Library of Congress have been used for most of the books. This facilitates the general work of cataloging so materially that it is possible to do more analytical work.

There are school libraries in six of the public schools and the circulation for the year amounts to 5775. There are deposit stations at car barns and engine houses, and a collection of books has been recently sent to a boys' club of one of the churches in the city.



*East Orange (N. J.) F. P. L.* (6th rpt. — year 1908.) Added 2766; total 25,250. Issued, home use 152,334 (juv. 23,565). New registration 1723; active membership 9823. Receipts \$14,980.02; expenses \$11,330.47 (salaries \$4573.79, light \$485.60, books \$2046.34 + \$485.78, furniture and fixtures \$347.30).

Miss Rathbone's report shows that the library has attained its usual high standard of work during the past year. A large increase in circulation is shown for the year, the volumes circulated in 1907 being 16,848 less than in 1908.

This increase is remarkable in view of the liberal custom of allowing all books except recent fiction and magazines to be kept four weeks, and allowing a person to borrow any number of books at one time. The library appears to have reached the maximum of its circulating capacity in proportion to its present cost of maintenance. To increase the library's service to the public, increase in library accommodations would seem needful. The problem of over-congestion was met, for the year, in the city's offer of part of the basement of the City Hall to the library for storage purposes. Further expansion is necessary, but it is hoped that this may be accomplished by the opening of the branch library before another year has passed.

The opening of the playground library from the middle of August to Nov. 1 and the printing of a monthly bulletin of new books are the new undertakings of the year. Minor changes in detail work have been made as occasion required. Increase of work has made more specialized schedules for the staff desirable. By an arrangement made in the previous year the East Orange library was placed under the system of examinations for promotion used in the New York Public Library, the staff and apprentices in the East Orange library through these examinations being eligible for promotion in their own library as well as for a position in the New York Public Library. The beneficial effect of this arrangement has made itself evident in the stimulation of interest on the part of the staff.

A change has been made in the arrangement of fiction on the shelves, by which the case of new fiction has been removed and all fiction placed in one alphabetic order by author on the shelf next below the level of the eye throughout the bookstacks. This arrangement has resulted in more reading of non-fiction as well as in the reading of more old fiction. To counterbalance inconvenience caused by the change typewritten lists were mounted and placed at hand to assist persons who wished only recent fiction.

The children's circulation for the year shows an increase of 1623 over that of 1907. This increase is attributed chiefly to the graded lists used in the schools.

*Frederick, Md.* It is stated that Miss Mary P. Farr, field secretary and library organizer of the Maryland State Library Commission, is planning to organize a public library in Frederick, and will visit towns in Frederick county to establish stations for the travelling libraries sent out by the Library Commission. A public library is to be established in the city of Frederick with a fund of about \$100,000 left for this purpose by the late Mrs. Margaret C. Artz, whose daughter, Miss Victorine Artz, of Chicago, has the use of the fund during her lifetime. But Miss Farr hopes to have a public library established in Frederick before the receipt of this fund.

*Gloversville (N. Y.) F. L.* (Rpt. — year 1908.) Added 850; total 26,278. Issued, home use 74,913. New registration 660; ref. use 24,643 v. by 37,503 readers.

In the children's room 15,230 books have been drawn out and nearly 12,000 have been used in the department. Three travelling libraries amounting to over 200 volumes have been received from the State Education Department, and also a large number of books from the state library and photographs from the Division of visual instruction.

*Grand Rapids (Mich.) P. L.* (38th rpt. — year ending March 31, 1909.) Added 9388 (gifts 1144); total 101,433. Issued, home use 329,917. No. of readers in reading rooms 234,657. No. of cards issued 4651; total no. of cards in force 24,417. Receipts (from expense fund) \$37,081.78; (from book fund) \$12,888.16; expenses \$42,910.49 (binding \$163.56, salaries \$24,430.19, lighting \$826.96, fuel \$566.87, furniture and equipment \$479.18, printing \$1401.39).

While the use of the library increased during the year there was a decrease in expenditure. The most interesting feature in the year's work was the opening of a branch library in one of the schools, known as the Hall Street School branch library. This branch is larger and differently planned than the other school branches of the library, and is arranged so as to provide for the convenient delivery of lectures in the library room. It opened with 1235 books on the shelves at the time of opening, a number of them being books in the Holland language.

The work of the main library has been satisfactory in all departments. A serious drawback to its full effectiveness, however, is the lack of sufficient space, additional filing space being particularly necessary.

Though the library's collection now numbers 101,433, the purchase of books during the year has been inadequate to the demand, and the hampering effects of this have been felt in the work. During the year 194 municipal documents were received by exchange, making the total number of documents on hand for shelving \$2035, but the inadequate



quarters for shelving and displaying these documents render their use more or less unsatisfactory. An interesting analysis of cost of service is given in the report in which the cost per unit of service is shown to be a little less than  $1\frac{1}{4}$  cents per hour.

The statistics of registration are fully given, and it is interesting to note that the number of cardholders at the present time is almost equal to the number of persons of school age in the city, and that the number of streets of the city on which not a single card holder resides is 127, as compared with 147 of a year ago.

The registration for the year was 4651, and after March 1, 1909, the registration should go back to normal conditions, since this date marks the expiration of the issue of the first cards for four years. After this date cards will be cancelled each month on account of the expiration of the time limit, so that the registration in the future will include the renewal of the old cards and such new memberships as may be established.

The number of volumes in the 31 school libraries is now 12,910, and, exclusive of deposits there, there are now 10,278 volumes in the five branch libraries.

The number of memorial libraries is the same as last year—five for children and two for adults; at 22 homes children's memorial libraries were received, and 8 children receiving these were visited by the children's librarian. The interesting physiological detail may be added that "one boy that was visited by the children's librarian had his legs broken seven times in the last few years." Broken legs are especially popular, it appears, among the children who receive these memorial libraries.

Though the books for the blind contained by the library are limited in number, they have been made fair use of by the small number of blind in the city.

Under "Interesting the public in the library" Mr. Ranck mentions the following, which seems significant: "During the past winter there were a number of months when there were no exhibits. It is interesting to note in this connection that during these months the use of the library in other departments decreased as compared with the corresponding months of the year before, when large exhibitions were in place. On the other hand, in March, when there was a large exhibition in place, the use of the library was more nearly that of the corresponding month of the year before. In other words, the exhibitions and the lectures help enormously in creating and keeping up the interest in the library, and they are worth the time, trouble and expense involved simply from that point of view alone, regardless of the educational value of the lectures and exhibits." The Grand Rapids library evinces the progressive and earnest spirit in its report which characterizes its effective work.

*Greenfield (Mass.) P. L.* (28th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, 1908; covering 11 months.) Added 640; total 19,590. Issued, home use 51,567. No. borrowers' cards in force 3429. Receipts \$6202.69; expenses \$4740.79 (books and papers \$650.22, binding \$491.17, expense of moving \$59.29, furnishings and alterations \$1905.46).

The circulation for the 11 months covered by the report shows a gain of 5389 over the same period of time of the preceding year, and is the largest increase in the library's record. The circulation in the children's room alone was 17,950 books issued, as against 15,408 for the same period the year previous.

The use of the reading room on Sundays and in the evenings has continued large.

*Indiana State Library.* In the *Bulletin* of the library for September the following statement is made:

The Park Board of Indianapolis, in its general scheme of parks and boulevards, has included an esplanade in Ohio street west to White River. A State Library and Museum on this esplanade would add to the attractiveness. The dedication of such a building in 1916 would fitly commemorate the centennial of the state.

Indiana is behind in this work, and a historical library structure is an educational necessity. As shown many times in this bulletin, the State Capital is crowded, the museum is crowded and has not grown much for years, and the state library is cramped for space. All of the educational interests now housed in the State House can properly go into the proposed building. The state must do this if it desires standing in library and historical circles.

*Jersey City (N. J.) F. P. L.* The library has brought out a pamphlet "From canoe to tunnel: a sketch of the history of transportation between Jersey City and New York, 1661-1909, a souvenir of Tunnel Day, July 19, 1909." Jersey City, 1909. 15 p. O. pap., gratis; and has also issued a pamphlet entitled "Sail and steam; an historical sketch showing New Jersey's connection with the events commemorated by the Hudson-Fulton celebration." It contains a sketch of Hudson's voyage, but is chiefly devoted to early steam navigation.

*Kentucky State L.* The erection of the new capitol at Frankfort involves the removal of the state library, which consists of a collection of over 100,000 volumes. On the second story is the law library, just south of the governor's office, and easily accessible to the Court of Appeals. Here, in simple order, are arranged the state reports and statutes and digests and every decision of every supreme court of the United States, from the beginning of the various state governments to date, the United States Supreme Court reports, the various federal courts and United States Circuit Court; also the English, Irish,

Scotch and Canadian reports, the law text-books, etc. The general library is over the law library, and the legislative reference room is on the same floor with the legislative halls.

*Minnesota State Reformatory L., St. Cloud, Minn.* Under the auspices of the Minnesota Library Commission the State Reformatory Library has been classified and a finding list prepared, bringing book titles and subject headings into one alphabet. It is a problem to decide on the simplest form of call number to be used by men in such institutions where free access cannot be given to readers. The call number adopted consists of class number (three figures only) and accession number. According to the librarian, Mr. O. C. Page, the "new system" is proving satisfactory.

*New York City. College of the City of New York L.* The library has recently acquired the valuable library of the late Dr. Simon Newcomb, the noted astronomer. There are about 4000 volumes and 4000 pamphlets in the library and several thousand maps and photographs relating to astronomy. The large number of volumes on celestial mechanics, including the works of the most celebrated writers, is worthy of special mention.

*New York P. L. Columbus Branch.* At no. 742 Tenth avenue, near 51st street, a new branch of the library, known as the Columbus Branch, was opened with appropriate exercises Sept. 24. The building was open for inspection and the distribution of books began on Sept. 25.

*Paterson (N. J.) F. P. L.* (24th rpt.—year ending Jan. 31, 1909.) Added (main lib.) 2624, (branch lib.) 813; total in main lib. and branch) 35,701. Issued, home use 185,936. Registration 2723; total valid cards issued from central library within three years, all previous registration having expired, 13,950; valid registration at main lib. and branch 18,368. Receipts \$22,409.57; expenses \$20,816.58 (salaries main lib. \$11,285.35, light and water, main lib. \$956.01, salaries, branch \$1463.88, light, branch \$81.36).

The law for mandatory appropriation having been abolished in Paterson, the library has been obliged to take so small an appropriation that it has had much to contend against. This report shows what was done by the library with an appropriation amounting to only \$1600 per year. The financial statement in this report covers a period quite different from the city financial year, and includes two months under the city appropriation made in 1907. The statistics herein given, together with the statements in regard to the financial situation of the library should be given close attention. The library is smaller in proportion to the population served than many others and the resulting use is therefore unusually large. A tabulated statement is given showing financial conditions

and working results of 12 live libraries, including Paterson. An average for nine of these is made, showing that the average city appropriation and total average annual income for these nine libraries was about \$10,000 more than that of Paterson; that these libraries contain on the average two and a half times as many volumes as Paterson, and that their average circulation was 254,555, whereas if at the same rate per volume as Paterson it would have been upwards of four hundred thousand. That these nine libraries contain, on the average, 81 volumes to each 100 inhabitants, while Paterson contains only 31 volumes per hundred of population; notwithstanding this, the Paterson library has circulated 1.54 per capita to their 2.29, and the average cost per volume of circulation in the nine libraries was 12 and 14 cents and in Paterson it was 11½ cents.

"These facts seem to indicate," Mr. Winchester concludes, "that if our library could be granted a city appropriation equal to the average in similar cities, it would quickly take its place in the very front rank, so far at least as public use is concerned." In spite of disadvantageous conditions the number of books loaned for home use during the year was the largest in the history of the library. From the duplicate pay collection there were 14,277 volumes drawn. The amount paid out for this collection was \$746.61, and the amount received from it was \$1020.95, showing a balance to the credit of the collection of \$274.34. There has been a decrease in the number of books issued from the children's room, but as the supply of children's books is wholly inadequate the decrease was inevitable. The registration during the year in this department was 2600. The reference room use was about 11,132 volumes, an increase of about a thousand over the year before. The report closes with a final plea for an increased appropriation.

*Providence, R. I. Brown University L.* The Harris collection of American poetry and plays now numbers over 11,000 volumes. These books are available in library exchange for the use of the scholars of the world. The collection has a fund of \$3000, the income of which is applied to its increase, but the larger part of its growth is through gifts. The library welcomes gifts of American poetry and plays, regardless of literary quality. The librarians of the country can help the collection greatly by sending to it local productions not likely to be found in the trade. Some of them are already doing so, and the rest are earnestly requested to follow their example.

*St. Louis (Mo.) P. L. Frederick M. Crunden Branch.* The new branch library named in honor of Mr. Frederick M. Crunden was opened to the public with appropriate exercises on Sept. 11. The distribution of books began on Sept. 13.

## Librarians

BROWNE, Miss Nina E., after 20 years of devoted and able service as registrar of the American Library Association, and during this connection being for 13 years secretary of the Publishing board of the Association, resigned her position on Sept. 1, owing to the removal of headquarters to Chicago. Miss Browne, who has lived for many years in Boston, did not feel that she cared to continue her work in Chicago with headquarters. She has been appointed as secretary of the Public Library Commission of Massachusetts, and it is a satisfaction that though the A. L. A. loses a devoted worker that the Massachusetts commission should obtain the services of one so familiar with the library conditions and library personnel of its state.

BURNHAM, John Milton, for 28 years assistant librarian of Brown University, died in Providence, R. I., Sept. 11, 1909, after a progressive illness of about 10 weeks. He was 62 years old. Mr. Burnham was born in Manchester, N. H., Feb. 28, 1847. He was the son of Captain Samuel and Sally (Sargent) Burnham, being a member of the eighth generation in America of a family of Puritan origin. He attended the schools of Manchester and learned the printer's trade in that city. He prepared for college at Colby Academy, New London, N. H., graduating in 1870, and entered Brown University in the same year, being a classmate of Rev. Dr. Anderson, secretary of the corporation, the late Hon. D. L. D. Granger, and other men who have attained distinction since. He was in the first rank of his class as a scholar and a writer, and won a part at Commencement. From 1874 to 1877 he was engaged in printing in Manchester. He was principal of the academy at Hinsdale, N. H., for one year and later engaged in private teaching. He served as printer and assistant editor in a newspaper office in Manistique, Mich., 1880-81, and in the latter year he was appointed, under Dr. Reuben A. Guild, assistant librarian of Brown University, a position which he held until his death. Mr. Burnham came of religious ancestry, and was a faithful member of the Baptist Church. Mr. Burnham at one time assisted President E. Benj. Andrews in making historical investigations, and he aided in the publication of Rosier's Relation by the Gorges Society. He was a man of great loyalty and devotion, firm of purpose and conscientious in all his dealings. He was of retiring disposition, and only a few knew the riches of his mind and heart. His special study was music, in which his taste inclined him to works of the loftiest character. He will be remembered with affection by thousands of Brown students, to whom he seemed an inseparable part of the university library.

Mr. Burnham was unmarried, and is survived by a brother, Rev. Christie W. Burnham of Providence, and a sister, Mrs. Sarah J., the wife of Rev. J. B. Child, of Flushing, N. Y.

CLARKE, Miss Edith E., previously librarian University of Vermont Library, Burlington, Vt., sailed Aug. 7 on the "Kroonland" for Antwerp. She will spend several months in Germany and Switzerland.

COLE, George Watson, of New York City, president of the New York Library Club, will be absent for a period of six months, with his wife, on a trip to the Pacific coast.

GLEASON-HUMESTON. Miss Caroline French Gleason, who has been for five years in charge of the Children's department of the Utica Public Library, and Stephen Johnson Humeston were married in Lansing, Mich., Sept. 9, at the home of the bride's brother, Louis M. Gleason. Mr. Humeston is a special law officer in the United States Land Department in Montana.

KILBURNE, Frederick W., Ph.D., graduate of Sheffield Scientific School of Yale and recently engaged in work on the Webster Dictionary of G. & C. Merriam & Co., has been appointed as editor of publications in the Brooklyn Public Library.

MATHEWS, Mary E., having resigned from her arduous duties as superintendent of branches of the Brooklyn Public Library, and having returned from a trip abroad, will continue her effective service to the library as branch librarian of the De Kalb Branch.

STRONG, George F., B.L.S., New York State Library School, 1909, has been appointed librarian of Boston University for a period of eight months.

TOWNSEND, Miss Eliza Ellen (Western Reserve '05), has resigned her position as librarian of the Manistee (Mich.) Public Library to take that of field and reference assistant on the staff of the Iowa State Library Commission. Miss Townsend was succeeded at Manistee, Oct. 1, by Miss Angie Messer (Wisconsin '09). During the month of September the Manistee Library received a gift of \$5000 from Mrs. Warren Filer, of that city. It is purposed to use this gift as the foundation for a permanent endowment fund for the purchase of books.

TRUE, Mabel C., has resigned her position in the Cataloging Department of the Library of the University of Michigan, to accept a similar position in the Michigan State Library.

WHITTIER, Miss Florence B., New York State Library School, class of 1902, has resigned her position as librarian of the Public Library, Sedalia, Mo., to become assistant to the secretary of the American Library Association.

## Cataloging and Classification

CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY. Accessions from June 1 to Aug. 1. Bulletin no. 92. 16 p. O. price 3 c.

CINCINNATI (O.) PUBLIC LIBRARY. Special reading list, no. 12. ed. 2, July, 1909: Reading list for boys and girls in grades 1-8; comp. by Esther Straus. 24 p. O.

This list was compiled to meet the numerous requests of local teachers for titles of children's books for home reading. In parentheses the grade for which the book is generally designated is indicated. A list of helps in the selection of children's books is appended.

[CONNECTICUT FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE.] Novels and children's stories of 1908-9. (Connecticut Public Library document.) No. 4, 1909. (Whole number 60.) 4 p. O.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS. Want list of publications of societies. New ed., 1909. Washington, Gov't Printing Office. 228 p. O.

This want list of society publications is arranged alphabetically in groups, as follows: International, by title; foreign, by country and city; domestic; national, by title; local, by state and city. Librarians are requested to send lists of their wants, and to notify the Library of Congress of any duplicates at their disposal which may aid to complete the library's files.

NEWARK (N. J.) FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY. Books for school-room libraries; a graded list for the use of Newark teachers. 1909. 20 p. O.

The above list is printed on detached leaflets. It is planned to help teachers in the selection of books for class-room libraries, and follows the printed study-courses supplied by the Board of Education to every teacher. Its arrangement, as that of the study-course, is by grade and subject. Each grade is given a separate leaflet, and the A. and B. divisions of each are grouped separately, except in the case of lists under Reading and literature, and Miscellaneous. The titles, given under general subject and subhead, are given in small print, and titles are starred for such books as are furnished by the Board of Education as text books. The lists show systematic and suitable basis of selection, and are convenient for consultation.

SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS. Monthly catalogue United State public documents, no. 176, August, 1909. Washington, Gov't Printing Office, 1909. p. 57-94. D.

## Bibliography

AFRICA. LANGUAGE. List of grammars, dictionaries, etc., of the languages of Africa. (In New York Public Library Bulletin, August, p. 499-554.)

ARCHITECTURE, GOTHIC. Reading lists, no. 56. (In Croydon (Eng.) Public Libraries, *The Readers' Index*, Sept.-Oct., p. 114-121.)

CHILDREN'S READING. [Connecticut Free Public Library Committee.] Helps in library work with children. (Connecticut Public Library document.) no. 3, 1909. (whole number 59.) 6 p. O.

This little pamphlet should prove useful as a ready aid in library work with children. It gives books and pamphlets covering History and development of children's books; Graded and selected lists of children's reading; lists of stories to read aloud and to tell; and lists anniversaries, pictures, etc.

DUTCH PERIODICAL LITERATURE. Nijhoff's index op de Nederlandsche periodieken van algemeenen inhoud. Sept., 1909. Nijhoff, 'S-Gravenhage, Holland.

This index will be published monthly, the September number being the first issue. Articles in Dutch periodicals are listed by authors as catchwords and arranged in one alphabet. The subscription price for one year, free by mail, is 50 c., payable in advance.

ENGLISH ART. Armstrong Sir Walter. Art in Great Britain and Ireland. N. Y., Scribner, 1909. 16+332 p. il. col. pls. D. (Ars una: species mille; general history of art.) cl., \*\$1.50 net.

Bibliographies.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE. Krapp, G. Philip. Modern English: its growth and present use. N. Y., Scribner, 1909. c. 12+357 p. D. cl., \$1.25 net.

Bibliography (4 p.).

ENGLISH POETRY. Bronson, W. C., ed. English poems selected and edited with illustrative and explanatory notes and bibliographies; the Elizabethan age and the Puritan period (1550-1650). Chic., University of Chicago Press, 1909. c. 18+543 p. D. cl., \$1 net; lib. ed., \$1.50 net.

FULTON, Robert. Letters and documents by or relating to Robert Fulton. (In New York Public Library Bulletin, September, p. 567-584.)

GERMAN LANGUAGE. Evans, Marshall Blake-more. The high school course in German.



- Rev. ed. Madison, Wis., University of Wisconsin, 1909. 34 p. 12°, (Univ. of Wisconsin bull.; High school ser.) pap. (Add. Univ. for price.)  
Reference library for teacher and school (5 p.).
- GREECE. ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTIQUITIES. Fowler, Harold North, Wheeler, Ja. Rignall, and Stevens, Gorham Phillips. A handbook of Greek archaeology by Harold North Fowler and Ja. Rignall Wheeler, with the collaboration of Gorham Phillips Stevens. N. Y., American Book Co., [1909.] c. 559 p. il. D. (Greek ser. for colleges and schools; ed. by Herbert Weir Smith.) cl., \$2.  
Bibliography (8 p.).
- GREEK PROSODY. Ogden, C. J. De infinitivi finalis vel consecutivi constructione apud priscos poetas Græcos. N. Y., Macmillan, 1909. 60 p. 8°, (Columbia University studies in classical philology.) cl., \$1.25 net.  
Bibliography.
- HUDSON, Henry. List of works relating to Henry Hudson, Robert Fulton, etc. (*In* New York Public Library *Bulletin*, September, p. 585-613.)
- ITALIAN ART. List of books on Italian art from the Renaissance period to modern times. (*In* St. Louis (Mo.) Public Library *Monthly Bulletin*, p. 142-151.)
- JEFFERIES, Richard. Thomas, E. Richard Jefferies; his life and work; with il. and a map. Bost., Little, Brown & Co., 1909. 11+340 p. O. cl., \$3 net.  
Bibliography (7 p.).
- LATIN DRAMA. Saunders, Catharine. Costume in Roman comedy. N. Y., Macmillan, 1909. 10+145 p. 12°, (Columbia Univ. studies in classical philology.) cl., \$1 net.  
Bibliography (3 p.).
- MINERALOGY. Dana, E. Salisbury, and Ford, W. Ebenezer. Second appendix to the 6th ed. of Dana's System of mineralogy; completing the work to 1909. N. Y., John Wiley & Sons, 1909. c. 11+114 p. il. diagrs., 4°, cl., \$1.50.  
Bibliography (2 p.).
- MOROCCO. Books about Morocco. (*In* Nottingham (Eng.) Free Public Libraries. *Bulletin*, p. 79-80.)
- MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENT. Marsh, B. Clarke, and Ford, G. B. An introduction to city planning; democracy's challenge to the American city; with a chapter on the technical phases of city planning, by G. B. Ford. N. Y., [Benjamin C. Marsh, 165 Broadway, 1909.] c. 5-156 p. il. plans, 8°, cl., \$1.  
Some good books on city planning (4 p.).
- MUSIC. Catalogo delle opere musicali teoriche e pratiche, composte avanti il secolo XIX, esistenti nelle biblioteche e negli archivi pubblici e privati d'Italia. Puntata I. Città di Parma (Opere teoriche: trattati di musica). Parma, Officina d'art. grafiche, 1909. 4°. p. 18, con tre facsimili.  
Bollettino dell'associazione dei musicologi italiani, annata 1909.
- New Schaff-Herzog encyclopedia of religious knowledge; embracing Biblical, historical, doctrinal and practical theology, and Biblical, theological and ecclesiastical biography, from the earliest times to the present day; based on the 3d ed. of the Realencyklopädie [für protestantische theologie und kirche] by Johann Jakob Herzog; ed. by Albert Hauck and now in course of publication; prepared by more than 600 scholars and specialists under the supervision of S. Macauley Jackson, D.D., editor-in-chief, C. Colebrook Sherman and G. W. Gilmore. Complete in 12 v. v. 4, Draeseke-Goa. N. Y., Funk & Wagnalls Co., 1909. c. 15+500 p. Q. cl., \$5; per set, \$60; shp., \$84; hf. mor., \$96; full mor., \$108.  
The fourth volume appears just three months after the publication of volume 3, and the publishers hope to publish the remaining eight volumes at intervals of three months. This volume is specially strong in biography and history.
- NORWEGIAN BOOKS. Björck and Börjesson. A selected list of Norwegian and Danish books suitable for libraries. N. Y., 1909. 31 p. O.  
A classified list of bound and paper books, with price, paging and date. This list will be sent free of charge and postpaid.
- POLAR REGIONS. Special list. (*In* Somerville (Mass.) Public Library *Library Bulletin*, July, August, September, 1909. v. 12, no. 7.)  
— Works on the polar regions in Sunderland (Eng.) Public Libraries. The library circular; a quarterly catalogue of additions, 1909. no. 42, v. 4, p. 316-318.)
- PRAYER. Strong, Anna Louise. The psychology of prayers. Chic., University of Chicago Press, 1909. 122 p. D. cl., \$1.75 net.  
Bibliography (3 p.).

**REINFORCED CONCRETE.** Moisseiff, Leon Solomon. A review of the literature of reinforced concrete; reprint of article in the *Engineering Digest* (New York); to which is added a list of current books on cement, concrete, limes and allied subjects, with descriptive notes. N. Y., Engineering News Book Department, 1909. c. 63 p. 8°, pap., 5 c.

**TENNYSON, ALFRED.** Lord. Reading list, no. 57. (In Croydon (Eng.) Public Libraries, *The Reader's Index*, Sept.-Oct., p. 121-127.)

**WALES.** Cardiff (Eng.) Public Libraries. Catalogue of historical works and historical novels relating to Wales. Cardiff, 1909. 25 p. S. (gratis at libs. or free by post 1d.)

A classified list, with annotations. Folklore and legends such as Mabinogion and Morte d'Arthur are fully covered. Welsh novels and miscellaneous novels relating to Wales are also given.

**STATE PUBLICATIONS.** Hasse, A. R. Index of economic material in documents of the states of the United States: Illinois, 1809-1904. Prepared for the Department of Economics and Sociology of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1909.

### Notes and Queries

**FOR DISTRIBUTION.**—Copies of "Pour L'Aviation par MM. D'Estournelles de Constant, P. Painlevé, le Ct Bouttiaux et divers Collaborateurs, 3d edition, Librairie Aeronautique, 32 rue Madame, Paris," have been given to Columbia Library for distribution among American libraries. They will be sent to university and other libraries upon our exchange list, and to such other libraries interested in this class of literature as may request them. The postage is eight cents.

W. D. JOHNSTON,  
Librarian Columbia University.

**LITERARY NEWS.**—The well-known London journalist and author, Mr. Clement K. Shorter, has undertaken a regular semi-monthly English literary letter for *The Dial*. Probably no one in London is more closely in touch with the world of books and authors than Mr. Shorter; certainly no one is able to write of them more informally and entertainingly. Mr. Shorter's first letter appears in *The Dial* for Oct. 1.

**WARNING.**—Two public librarians, both of whom wish their names withheld, have reported to me that a man who claims to be my

brother and an employe of the Washington Public Library, has "borrowed" money from them for railway fare to get back to Washington. His favorite amount seems to be \$4, for exactly that sum was secured in 1906 and again this summer. As a matter of fact my only brother is a physician in Buffalo, and he is not likely to be travelling without funds. It is stated that this swindler is well acquainted with librarians and library affairs and has the appearance of a cultivated gentleman. On his reappearance it seems desirable to publish this warning.

GEORGE F. BOWERMAN,  
Librarian Public Library District of  
Columbia.  
SEPT. 29, 1909.

### Library Calendar

#### OCTOBER

- 5-7. Mich. L. A. 18th annual meeting. Hoyt L., Saginaw.  
Address by N. D. C. Hodges.
- 12-14. Iowa L. A. 20th annual meeting. Des Moines.  
Program: Addresses by N. D. C. Hodges and Chalmers Hadley; Justice Horace E. Deemer, Supreme Court, on "Books as a part of a state's system of education"; Rev. Joseph F. Newton, of Cedar Rapids, on "Inspiration of books"; Miss Katherine Jewell Everts, of New York City, reading of "My lady's ring," by Alice Brown.
13. Western Mass. L. C. Ramsdell P. L., Housatonic, Mass.  
Program: Book selection, by F. G. Willcox; The art of poetry, by H. H. Morrill.
- 20-21. Kans. L. A. Ottawa, Kan. Ninth annual meeting.  
Program: The public library as an investment, by Miss Ada Hending, McPherson Public Library; Work of a college library, by Miss Dora Renn, Lawrence State University Library; School libraries, by E. T. Fairchild, Topeka, state superintendent of Public Instruction; Ways and means of raising money for libraries in small towns, by Miss Rebecca D. Kiner, Hiawatha County, superintendent of schools.
- 26-30. Missouri L. A. 10th annual meeting and library institute. Gordon Hotel, Columbia, Mo.  
Program: 26-28, in charge of Miss E. B. Wales.  
28-30. Meeting: System in the library, by A. E. Bostwick; Apportionment of funds in a college library, by W. H. Kerr, Westminster College, Fulton; Charging system of the St. Louis Public Library, by Bertha Doane, St. Louis Public Library; The college library and cultural reading, by R. S. Douglass, Normal School, Cape Girardeau; Reference work in a public library, by Martha B. Clark, Normal School, Maryville; Book plates, Dr. W. G. Brown, Ex-Libris Society, Columbia; State documents suitable for the small public libraries, by Grace Lefler, University Library, Columbia; The library and the mechanic, Purd B. Wright, St. Joseph.

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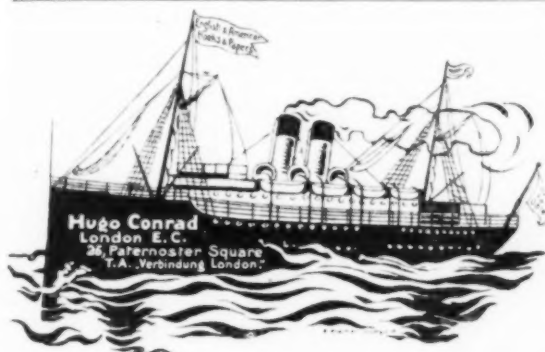
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